

VIRUS OUTBREAK College football coaches cope with season of uncertainty Back page



MILITARY

Navv cancels fall E-4 exams due to concerns over virus

Page 5



US says blast hits convoy in Iraq; border attack claim false » Page 4

STARS

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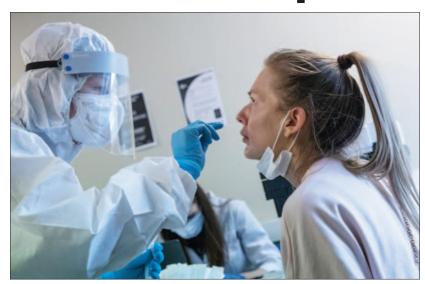
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020

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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

VIRUS OUTBREAK

Global cases top 20M



Grim milestone reached as Russia announces it has approved vaccine

By NICOLE WINFIELD, ELAINE KURTENBACH AND MARK STEVENSON

Associated Press

ROME - The number of confirmed coronavirus cases worldwide topped 20 million, more than half of them from the United States, India and Brazil, as Russia on Tuesday became the first country to approve a vaccine against the virus.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said that one of his two adult daughters had already been inoculated with the cleared vaccine, which he described as effective. "She's feeling well and has a high number of antibodies," Putin said.

Russia has reported more than 890,000 cases, the fourth-highest total in the world, according to a Johns Hopkins University tally that also showed total confirmed cases globally surpassing 20 million.

It took six months or so to get to 10 million cases after the virus first appeared in central China late last year. It took just over six weeks for that number to double.

An AP analysis of data through Aug. 9 showed the U.S., India and Brazil together accounted for nearly two-thirds of all reported infections since the world hit 15 million coronavirus cases on July 22.

Health officials believe the actual number of people infected with the virus is much higher than the tally kept by Johns Hopkins University, given testing limitations and that as many as 40% of those with the virus show no symptoms

SEE CASES ON PAGE 10

A medical worker performs a COVID-19 test at a test center at Vnukovo airport outside Moscow. Russia, on Friday. Authorities in Russia say they are about to approve a COVID-19 vaccine, with mass vaccinations

planned as early as October 2020, using shots that are yet to complete clinical trials

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/AP

Taliban warn against attacks on prisoners set to be freed

By KATHY GANNON Associated Press

ISLAMABAD - Ahead of an upcoming release of Taliban detainees held in Afghan prisons, the insurgent group warned the government in Kabul on Tuesday against any attacks on those released, saying such incidents would jeopardize the peace talks.

A Taliban spokesman told The Associated Press there



stances when freed Taliban figures killed were harassed and re-arrested by

have been at least 11 such attacks in the past several months — in-

government forces Kabul officials denied unwarranted attacks on freed Taliban. The prisoner release is part of a deal the insurgents signed with the United States earlier this year. A final 400 Taliban prisoners remain in government prisons.

Over the weekend in Kabul, an Afghan traditional council, known as the Loya Jirga, agreed to free the final 400 imprisoned Taliban, paving the way for an early start to negotiations between Afghanistan's warring sides.

The council agreed to an "immediate" release of Taliban prisoners but by Tuesday, they had not been freed. Negotiations between Kabul's political leadership and the Taliban are expected to begin within weeks - and will be held in the Mideast state of Qatar, where the Taliban maintain a political office. The Taliban said the talks could begin within a week of the final prisoner releases.

Taliban political spokesman Suhail Shaheen warned that at-tacks on newly freed prisoners will drive them back to the battlefield despite orders from their leaders "to stay at home, with their families."

SEE TALIBAN ON PAGE 4

BUSINESS/WEATHER

第3種郵便物設可

McDonald's sues ousted CEO over alleged relationships

By Dee-Ann Durbin Associated Press

McDonald's says it's suing Stephen Easterbrook, the CEO it ousted last year over an inappropriate relationship with an employee, alleging Monday that he covered up relationships with three other employees and destrowed evidence.

The company now wants to reclaim millions of dollars in compensation paid to Easterbrook

pensation paid to Easterbrook.

"McDonald's does not tolerate

behavior from employees that does not reflect our values," said McDonald's President and CEO Chris Kempczinski, who was promoted following Easterbrook's departure, in a message to employees Monday.

McDonald's fired Easterbrook last November after he acknowledged exchanging videos and text messages in a non-physical, consensual relationship with an employee. Easterbrook told the company that there were no other

similar instances.

According to the lawsuit, McDonald's received an anonymous tip in July that Easterbrook had engaged in a sexual relationship with another employee. After an investigation, McDonald's confirmed that relationship as well as two other relationships in the year before he was fired.

McDonald's is now attempting to block Easterbrook from exercising his stock options and said it will seek compensatory damages.

will seek compensatory damages. It's unclear how much Easterbrook might have to pay.

		EXCHANGE
	Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 12)	\$1.15
Dollar buys	(Aug. 12)	€0.8269
British pour	id (Aug. 12)	\$1.28
Japanese ye	n (Aug. 12)	108.00
South Korea	ın won (Aug. 12)	
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Euro	\$1	1.1784/0.8486
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Kuwait (Din	ar)	0.3059
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South Korea	ı (Won)	1,183.90

GE RATES
Switzerland (Franc)
rates provided for reference when buying
currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound,
and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

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WEATHER OUTLOOK







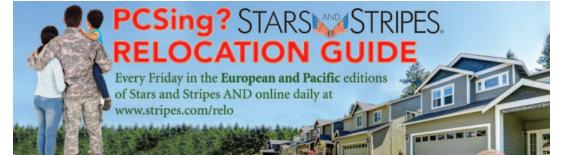
TODAY



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MILITARY

Guam-based bomber trains with Japanese

By SETH ROBSON Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — A Guam-based B-1B Lancer recently flew alongside 14 Japanese fighter jets before drilling with multiple USS Ronald Reagan strike group aircraft near Japan, the Air Force announced Monday.

A pair of Lancers and 170 airmen from the 37th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, 28th Bomb Wing, at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., arrived on Guam less than a month ago. The Air Force did not disclose the intended length of the deployment.

On Friday, one of the bombers launched from Andersen Air Force Base on to train with eight Mitsubishi F-2s and six F-15 Eagles from the Japan Air Self-Defense Force, the service said in a new release.

"Opportunities to train alongside our joint partners and allies in the region are an invaluable experience for our Airmen," the squadron's commander, Lt. Col. Lincoln Coleman, said in the release. "Not only are we able to highlight our continued comnitment to our allies, but it also increases our ability to integrate with one another and strengthen

our combined capabilities."

The Lancer also took part in
'Joint War at Sea" training that
day with the USS Ronald Reagan
strike group between Japan and
the Korean Peninsula, according
to the statement

The bomber practiced comnumicating and operating with a variety of Reagan aircraft, including F-18 Hornets, EAJ-Growlers and E-2D Advanced Hawkeyes, strike group spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Sean Brophy told Stars and Stripes via telephone on Tuesday.

Before arriving on Guam, the bombers conducted intercept training in the same area with JASDF F-15J fighter jets, according to a previous Air Force statement.

B-1s were last deployed to Guam in May when they flew in from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

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CHRISTINA BENNETT/U.S. Air Force

A B-1B Lancer rests on the flight line at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on Thursday.

Database offers child care options for military families



JAMES HODGMAN/U.S. Air Force

Emilia Williams, 60th Force Support Squadron child and youth program technician, helps a child read a book inside Child Development Center 3 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., in May.

By Caitlin M. Kenney Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Military families needing hourly child care have a new, free option for finding providers, the Pentagon announced Monday.

Military OneSource, a Defense Department website that provides services and resources to the military, is offering access to a national online service that allows families to find, hire and pay for care, according to a Pentagon statement.

Access to child care is a challenge for military families because of frequent moves, limited availability at their installations and surrounding communities, and irregular work hours.

This option is in addition to the Defense Department's own child care system, which can be accessed at MilitaryChildCare. com.

Military families can search and sign up for full-time and parttime care at DOD facilities or for home-based care.

"We are committed to taking care of our service members and military families, and understand that families may need assistance with their hourly care needs," Kim Joiner, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy said in the Pentagon statement.

The database service usually charges for a monthly subscription but is being provided free to "eligible military families" through Military OneSource, according to the Pentagon. Families can sign up for their subscription through their Military OneSource account, which will provide a member code.

The Pentagon statement and Military OneSource did not include the name of the database or how much the service could be costing the Defense Department.

The database has more than a million caregivers who offer hourly, flexible and on demand child care, according to Military OneSource. Families can find providers and review their background checks, but interviews can also take place through the service.

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Eisenhower strike group returns to Norfolk after 7 months at sea

By Katherine Hafner The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot

The USS Dwight D. Eisenhower returned home to Norfolk on Sunday following a seven-month deployment that included breaking the Navy's record for most days at sea.

The coronavirus made stops in foreign countries too risky, officials said, so the aircraft carrier had to keep moving.

had to keep moving.
The Eisenhower's strike group
includes about 6,000 total sailors.
There are five ships in addition to
the carrier. The guided-missile
cruiser San Jacinto sailed into
Naval Station Norfolk on Sunday
as well. Cruiser Vella Gulf and

guided-missile destroyers Truxtun and James E. Williams arrived Monday. The Stout, another destroyer, remains deployed. More than 1,800 aviators from

nine squadrons under Carrier Air Wing Three went home to Naval Air Station Oceana and elsewhere last week.

The strike group had left in late January for a final certification exercise and went straight from there to its deployment, instead oroming home first as is customary. That was part of a Defense Department strategy known as "dynamic force deployment," which is meant to keep adversaries on their toes, The Virginian-Pilot reported at the time.

Since then, sailors have operated in the 5th and 6th fleets — the Middle East and Europe, respectively. Each ship sailed more than 60,000 nautical miles, the Navy said in a news release. They partnered with the USS Harry S. Truman and French carrier Charles de Gaulle for dual carrier operations.

A few months ago, the USS Eisenhower got Naval History and Heritage Command to recognize its crew with a new title, "fron Shellbacks." That was for their crossing of the equator line in May following over 100 days at sea without port stops.

The ship, along with the San Jacinto, eventually broke the Navy's record of 160 consecutive days at sea. The Ike ended up at 206.

Eisenhower's Capt. Kyle Higgins said at the time the milestone was "not one that I think we really wanted but one that the circumstances of the world thrust upon us. And we embraced it with style."

Crew members also had to improvise to make more than 500 serious equipment and systems repairs that would normally happen at the depot level or with technical help coming on board.

During their deployment, the Vella Gulf, James E. Williams, Stout and Truxtun participated in Operation Sentinel, the Navy said, "providing freedom of navigation and the free flow of commerce in and out of the heavily transited Strait of Hormuz and Strait of Bab el Mandeb."

Aviators with Carrier Air Wing Three completed 10,466 rotary and fixed wing sorties, 7,751 traps and about 21,995 flight hours.

"The professionalism of my aircrew and the sailors sweating through seven months of no port visit operations was simply eye-watering," Capt. Trevor Estes, commander of the air wing, said in a statement. "I truly hope that every member of this team has the opportunity they deserve to relax and enjoy time with family and friends post deployment."

MILITARY

Military post offices gear up for electronic customs forms US: No injuries

By David Edge Stars and Stripes

Expect a line to use newly arrived customs form kiosks at post offices on bases in Europe and the Pacific, postal officials said ahead of a policy taking effect Thursday that bars acceptance of handwritten forms.

Use of the kiosk, which includes a computer, printer and a scale, is one of three ways service members and other Defens Department personnel can send packages from overseas bases to the United States or other countries under the new rules, postal officials said.

The U.S. Postal Service began transitioning to electronic customs forms in March due to international regulations but granted military post offices an extension through Thursday, the service said on its website.

Customers can still fill out handwritten customs worksheets when they mail their packages, but postal workers will need to type in all of the details to create electronic labels.

"That is the least preferred method from our point of view because it takes the most time for our people to process and makes the lines even longer," said William Hilsher, postal and policy chief for U.S. Army Europe.

Customers can instead use the kiosks to print labels, which Hilsher said should be in place at all USAREUR post offices by Thursday.

While many post offices overseas are rolling out the kiosks



NATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Dustin Traylor of the 51st Fighter Wing uses a computer to fill out a customs form inside the post office at Osan Air Base, South Korea, in June. A policy taking effect Thursday on military installations bars acceptance of handwritten customs forms.

just ahead of the Thursday deadline, others like Osan Air Base in South Korea and Sasebo Naval Base in Japan have had theirs running for months.

Some postal workers said they expect delays at the kiosks and hope that customers will print their forms and shipping labels at usps.com, which would shorten wait times. Customers can find online customs forms underneath the international tab on the Postal Service website.

To speed up service, the Sasebo post office will set up a special line "for people with the customs form already printed out and another for the computer station." postal manager Lewis Powell said recently.

However, filling out the forms online may be difficult for some overseas customers. The online forms require phone numbers but don't accept some overseas phone numbers. The forms also ask for the weight of a package and a box selection in advance, with varying prices.

Customers who print labels at home can pay their shipping costs online and drop off their packages after a clerk confirms the sizes and weights, Powell said.

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US: No injuries from attack on coalition convoy

Associated Pres

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates
—An explosion targeted a U.S.-led
coalition convoy in Iraq on Tuesday and caused no casualties, just
hours after a newly formed Shitte
militant group falsely claimed
bombing a similar convoy at the
Iraq-Kuwait border, the American military said.

The little-known Ashab al-Kahf group claimed in an overnight statement it destroyed "equipment and vehicles belonging to the American enemy" in a bombing targeting a border crossing south of the Iraqi city of Basra.

The group later published an II-second video it claimed showed the blast, according to the STTE Intelligence Group, which monitors militant groups. The out-of-focus video shows what appeared to be an explosion and lights in the distance but The Associated Press could not verify the video.

The Iraqi and Kuwaiti militaries both denied any attack occurred. U.S. Army Col. Myles B. Caggins III similarly dismissed the claim.

"It's absolutely false," Caggins told the AP. "It was a complete fabrication." There was, however, an explosion that targeted a coalition convoy on Tuesday in the Taji area, north of Baghdad, the Iraqi miliary said. The attack damaged a truck and caused no injuries, Caggins said. No one claimed responsibility for that attack.

Since the 2003 U.S. led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein and the later war against Islamic State, American troops and contractors sometimes travel by road with equipment and supplies between Irea and Kungil.

tween Iraq and Kuwait.
Ashab al-Kahf, or "Companions of the Cave" in Arabic — a reference to a Christian and Islamic story about youths escaping religious persecution by hiding in a cave for hundreds of years — emerged alongside renewed threats by Shitte militias amid rising U.S.-Iran tensions.

In January, an American drone strike killed a top Iranian general in Baghdad. Tehran responded with a ballistic missile attack that wounded dozens of American troops at a military base in Iraq.

Ashab al-Kahf initially threatened U.S. forces in April and claimed an attack on a convoy in July in Iraq's Salaheddin province.

Taliban: 'Reintegration will be a significant long-term policy concern,' US analyst says

FROM FRONT PAGE

Attacks on their homes will "make it impossible for them to stay in their homes," Shaheen said. "Such incidents have happened that they have been re-arrested and also killed." In recent months, both sides

In recent months, both states have freed prisoners in line with the deal the Taliban sigmed with Washington on Feb. 29 to bring an end to decades of war. The government was to free 5,000 — and has already released all but the last 400. The Taliban freed the 1,000 members of the government forces and Afghan officials

they had held captive.
Shaheen said the Taliban
would be ready "within one week
to sit at the negotiating talbe
with Kabul's political leadership
to first negotiate a cease-fire and
then start the complex talks to
decide the road map of a postwar
Afghanistan.

But he said the moment is critical.

For some it compares to after the 9/11 attacks, when the 2001 U.S.-led invasion toppled the Taliban, who had harbored al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

Then tens of thousands of Taliban who gave up arms to return to their homes at the time were targeted by Afghan groups and warlords they had once fought seeking revenge. In December, 2001 a convoy of Afghan elders, including former Taliban, were targeted en route to welcome U.S.-backed President Hamid Karzai. Many who survived that attack later rejoined the Taliban.

In southern Zabul province, more than 2,000 ethnic Pash-tuns, the backbone of the Taliban movement, tried to join the newly formed Afghan army in 2002, only to be humiliated by Kabul government forces. Most rejoined the Taliban

"After 2001, when some former Taliban attempted to join the 'new order,' they were persecuted and humiliated. And some who were just from Taliban areas were accused of being supporters and attacked and driven out of their land," said Patricia Gossman, Associate Asia director of Human Rights Watch. "Many eventually joined the insurgency."

Gossman said unless a strat-

Gossman said unless a strategy is devised and a system put in place there is a danger that attacks on the tens of thousands of former fighters on both sides of the conflict could unravel a fragile peace process.

"Given the enormous amount of mistrust ... old grievances can easily erupt into more violence," she said.

Sediq Sediqqi, spokesman for Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, has denied that any released Taliban were arrested or attacked without cause.

However, last month a government airstrike in western Herat killed 14 people when hundreds of elders had gathered to greet a returning Taliban figure newly freed from prison.

"The issue of reintegration will be a significant long-term policy concern that endures long after reconciliation has been achieved," said Michael Kugelman, Asia Program deputy director at the U.S.-based Wilson Center.

3 Texas soldiers arrested in child prostitution sting

By Rose L. Thayer Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Three soldiers who had the impression that they were meeting underage girls to pay them for sex were instead arrested Saturday and charged with prostitution during a two-day sting operation by police in Killeen, authorities said.

Two soldiers, Spc. Anthony Xavier Antwon, 25, and Pfc. Timmy Jones Jr., 30, received a felony charge of prostitution under the age of 18, according to a news release sent Monday by the Killeen Police Department. The third, Staff Sgt. Pierre Jean, 32, received a Class A misdemeanor charge for prostitution.

Killeen's Special Victims Unit partnered with the Texas Department of Public Safety Human Trafficking Program "to locate and arrest subjects who were willing to make overt efforts to pay minors to engage in sexual acts," according to the release.

Nine suspects were charged and arrested Saturday after they contacted officers through various social media platforms and made agreements for sexual acts with girls they believed were 15 or 16, according to police. Fees included money, drugs and alcohol.

The suspects were apprehended without incident when they arrived at a predetermined location. The sting resulted in seven felony prostitution charges and two misdemeanor prostitution charges. Two guns were confiscated.

Antwon and Jones, who are assigned to nearby Fort Hood, were at Bell County Jail with bond set at \$50,000, according to jail records.

Antwon is a motor transport operator with 4th Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, according to the Fort Hood Public Affairs Office. Jones is a combat engineer with the 87th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade.

Police identified Jean, a combat medic, as a Killeen resident, though he is assigned to the Army Medical Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. The medical center is about 140 miles south of Killeen.

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MILITARY

Navy cancels fall E-4 exams amid pandemic

By BRIAN FERGUSON Stars and Strines

The Navy has canceled petty officer 3rd class advancement exams for the second time this year to limit exposure to the coronavirus, a service statement said.

Instead, sailors will be selected for advancement from E-3 to E-4 this fall based on a scoring formula that is heavily based on job performance but also looks at other criteria, the statement said.

The decision to cancel fall E-4 exams was made because the advancement tests are normally taken in large groups aboard ships or in packed gymnasiums, where social distancing can't be enforced.

In the method that will replace the tests, the average of annual evaluation scores in rank count for 72% of the overall calculation. Awards, previous pass-but-not-advance points, time in rank and education will also be factored.

The same evaluation method was used in the spring - when advancement exams were first canceled because of the virus - to determine promotions, the statement

The new advancement policy was developed "to ensure the safety of our sailors during the COVID-19 outbreak, while still ensuring that all the sailors we advance have the proficiency, expertise and demonstrated capability to lead at the next level," Vice Adm. John B. Nowell, Jr., the service's top personnel officer, said in the statement.

Commands of active-duty and full-time support sailors have until Sept. 25 to finalize enlisted advancement worksheets, Navy officials said. Selected reserve cycle worksheets must be completed by Sept. 30, they said.

The changes affect active, full-time support and selected reserve sailors who are not in the prior service reenlistment eligi-



JESSICA HATTELL/U.S. Nav

Sailors aboard amphibious assault ship USS Boxer take the navy-wide E-5 advancement exam on the ship's mess decks in March in San Diego, Calif. The Navy has canceled fall E-4 exams to limit exposure to coronavirus.

bility reserve program.

E-5 and E-6 exams will be held separately throughout September, the statement said. The Navy said in the spring that those tests could be administered in smaller groups with appropriate social distancing

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Guam governor tests positive days after negative result



By WYATT OLSON Stars and Strines

The governor of Guam tested positive for the coronavirus Saturday and is now in home quarantine with her

In a statement released late Monday, Goy, Lou Leon Guerrero said she learned on Wednesday that she had come into contact with a close relative who had become infected with COVID-19, the respiratory disease She and her husband tested nega-

tive at the time but immediately limited travel to essential functions only. the statement said.

She began to exhibit symptoms Saturday and received a positive test result that evening.

"I have been in home quarantine since this weekend and will be isolated pending my recovery," Guerrero said in the statement. "I remain in

good health despite exhibiting moderate symptoms of the virus. As of Monday, Guam's lieutenant

governor and its acting chief of staff both tested negative, the statement added. Just last week, Naval Base Guam

and Andersen Air Force Base lowered their health protection conditions to reflect a moderate risk of coronavirus infection.

Lowering the risk rating from

"substantial" came as the result of the daily rate of new coronavirus cases falling for two weeks, as well as the base hospitals admitting fewer infected patients.

The island has had 434 confirmed cases and five deaths as of Tuesday. according to the Guam Department of Health and Social Services. Fifty U.S. service members have tested positive.

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US military in Japan reports three new cases on Okinawa

By JOSEPH DITZLER Stars and Stripes

TOKYO - Japan's capital city, gripped in furnace-like heat Tues day, reported 188 new coronavirus cases, continuing a downward trend, while the U.S. military in Japan announced three at bases on Okinawa.

One new case was already isolated as a "close contact" of another person who was infected at Camp Courtney, according to a post on the Marine Corps Installations Pacific official Facebook

Kadena Air Base announced

two new infections Monday evening. One was placed in quarantine after reporting symptoms and then tested positive for the virus, according to a post on its Facebook page. The second person tested positive after contact with another individual with the virus. Both are in isolation, the post said.

The U.S. military on Okinawa has reported 317 cases since March, 298 of them affiliated with the Marines. Although the military reports numbers of cases at installations, it does not specify whether they are service members, civilian employees or family

The city of Tokyo reported 188 new cases Tuesday, according to public broadcaster NHK, which cited the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. It was the second day the city reported fewer than 200 new infections following a peak of 472 new cases on Aug. 1.

Tokyo on Tuesday sweltered along with much of the country. Temperatures in some parts of the metro area reached 100 degrees.

On Okinawa, the Ryukyu Shimpo newspaper, citing prefectural officials, reported 64 new cases among the local population Tuesday, higher than Monday's 52 but lower than the pandemic oneday record there of 159 reported Sunday.

The prefecture Monday announced that two people had died due to the coronavirus. There have been 10 deaths among the local population since March.

At Camp Zama, southwest of Tokyo, U.S. Army Garrison Japan notified its personnel that a worker at an iPhone repair shop near a satellite facility, Sagamihara General Depot, had tested positive for the virus Monday.

The shop is on the second floor of CELEO Sagamihara in the Sagamihara Station complex adjacent to the depot, according to a garrison Facebook post Tuesday. The infected employee's last shift was Aug. 5, and the store closed at 3 p.m. Monday for sanitization.

Anyone affiliated with U.S Army Japan who visited that store between Aug. 3 and Aug. 5 "and interacted with a store employee for more than 10 minutes, please immediately contact your chain of command and restrict all movement until contacted by medical officials," according to the post.

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NATION

Seattle police chief resigns after cuts to force, budget

By LISA BAUMANN Associated Press

SEATTLE — Seattle's police chief says she is stepping down, a move made public the same day the City Council approved reducing the department by as many as 100 officers through layoffs and attrition.

Carmen Best, the city's first Black police chief, said in a letter to the department that her retirement will be effective Sept. 2 and the mayor has appointed Deputy Chief Adrian Diaz as the interim chief, KING-TV reported Monday. Councilmembers had approved the cuts Monday.

"I am confident the department will make it through these difficult times," Best said in the letter. "You truly are the best police department in the country, and please trust me when I say, the vast majority of people in Seattle support you and appreciate you. ... I look forward to seeing how this department moves forward through the process of reenvisioning public safety. I relish the work that will be done by all of you."

In an email to police, Mayor Jenny Durkan said she accepted Best's decision "with a very heavy heart."

"I regret deeply that she concluded that the best way to serve the city and help the department was a change in leadership, in the hope that would change the dynamics to move forward with the City Council," Durkan wrote.

The mayor picked Best in July of 2018 to lead the department. She had been serving as interim chief.

A military veteran, Best joined the department in 1992 and had worked in a wide variety of roles, including patrol, media relations, narcotics and operations and deputy chief.

Cuts to the department have

been supported by demonstrators who have marched in the city following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, but strongly opposed by Durkan and Best

Measures that would cut less than \$4 million of the department's \$400 million annual budget this year passed out of committee unanimously last week. On Monday, only council member Kshama Sawant voted against the budget package, saying it does not do enough to defund the police.

Seattle currently has about 1,400 police officers and the reductions fell far short of the 50% cut to the department that many Black Lives Matter protesters are seeking. Several council members on Monday said the changes were a starting point in a long process to reimagine policing and public safety.

Durkan has proposed cutting about \$20 million from the police budget this year largely because of reduced revenues amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Last month, the mayor sketched out a plan to reduce the police budget by about \$75 million next year by transferring parking enforcement officers, the 911 call center and other areas out of the department.

"It is unfortunate Council has refused to engage in a collaborative process to work with the mayor, Chief Best, and community members to develop a budget and policies that respond to community needs while accounting for — not just acknowledging — the significant labor and legal implications involved in transforming the Seattle Police Department," Durkan said in a statement after the vote.



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST

Yogi Dalal hugs his daughter, Jigisha, as his other daughter, Kajal, left, bows her head at the family food and liquor store Monday after the family business was vandalized in Chicago.

Hundreds ransack downtown Chicago businesses following police shooting

By Don Babwin Associated Press

CHICAGO — Hundreds of people descended on downtown Chicago early Monday following a police shooting on the city's South Side, with vandals smashing the windows of dozens of businesses and making off with merchandise, cash machines and anything else they could carry, police said.

Police Superintendent David Brown told reporters

Police Superintendent David Brown told reporters that the Sunday afternoon shooting of the man who had opened fire on officers apparently prompted a social media post that urged people to form a car caravan and converge on the business and shopping district.

Some 400 additional officers were dispatched to the area after the department spotted the post. Over several hours, police made more than 100 arrests and 13 officers were injured, including one who was struck in the head with a bottle. Brown said.

Brown dismissed any suggestion that the chaos was part of an organized protest of the shooting, calling it "pure criminality" that included occupants of a vehicle opening fire on police who were arresting a man they spotted carrying a cash register.

No officers were wounded by gunfire, but a security guard and a civilian were hospitalized in critical condition after being shot, and five guns were recovered he said

Mayor Lori Lightfoot agreed that the melee had nothing to do with a protest. "This was straight-up felony criminal conduct," she said. "This was an asult on our city."

The mayhem brightened the national spotlight that has been on Chicago for weeks after a surge in gun violence that resulted in more homicides in July than any month in decades. President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly criticized the city's handling of the violence, recently ordered more federal agents to Chicago to take part in what Attorney General William Barr called "classic crime fighting:

Further ratcheting up the tensions in the city was a video circulating on Facebook that falsely claimed that Chicago police had shot and killed a 15-year-old boy. Posted at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, the video shows upset residents confronting officers near the scene where police shot and wounded an adult suspect they said had fired at them that day. By Monday morning, the footage had been watched nearly 100,000 times.

Latrell Allen, 20, was charged with attempted murder Monday for allegedly firing on officers, according to Chicago police. Officers returned fire, wounding the man, who was taken to a hospital for treatment. He was expected to recover. Brown said the man had a long criminal history, including arrests for domestic battery and child endangerment. A gun was recovered at the scene, he said.

Stores miles from downtown were also ransacked, their parking lots littered with glass and boxes that once contained television sets and other electronics.

Brown said the police department would maintain a huge presence in the downtown area indefinitely, telling reporters that all days off had been canceled until further notice.

Portland protesters rally as arrest of activist draws anger

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — The arrest during protests in Portland of a Black woman who became a leading activist in the racial justice movement after she was assaulted by a white supremacist three years ago has galvanized local and national Black Lives Matter groups.

More demonstrations were planned in the city Monday night, and authorities declared one outside the North Precinct an unlawful assembly, ordering everyone to leave. Portland has seen more than two months of often violent, nightly protests since George Floyd was killed in Minneapolis. Authorities said Demetria Hes-

return these same better in returned to the charged following her arrest early Monday. Hester had been booked on suspicion of disorderly conduct and interfering with a police officer during the protest that began Sunday night. Hester's arrest drew a sharp rebuke from national Black Lives Matter activists, who are increasingly focusing on demonstrations in Oregon's largest city.

After her release, Hester said at a news conference that she would keep protesting and joined others in announcing plans for a fundraiser to send Black mothers to Washington.

Hester and 15 other people were arrested during Portland's 73rd consecutive night of protest. A group of about 200 demonstrators gathered at a park and then marched to the police union headquarters, where some people set fires outside the building and launched fireworks at officers.

Two officers were injured, including one who was burned on the neck when a firework exploded, police said. Police declared a riot shortly after 10 p.m. and began arresting people, including Hester.

On Monday, civil rights groups in Portland and members of the international Black Lives Matter organization, who traveled to Portland, decried Hester's arrest and said the city was at the center of the racial justice protest movement.

"The struggle here in Portland has become almost ground zero because what we've seen under this administration is the kind of flexing that we haven't really seen in our generation, ever," said Janaya Khan, co-founder of Black Lives Matter Toronto. "People only protest when politicians and policies and police have failed to protect them."

Hester gained prominence in 2017 when she was assaulted by a white supremacist while riding a light-rail train. The man who attacked Hester, Jeremy Christian, stabbed two men to death the following night and critically injured a third man when they came to the defense of two Black women — one of them wearing a Muslim head-covering — who were being harassed by Christian.

Shooting near White House stops Trump's TV update

WASHINGTON-Auniformed Secret Service officer shot and wounded a man during a confrontation near the White House that led to President Donald Trump being abruptly escorted out of a briefing room during a televised news conference Monday, authorities said.

The White House complex was not breached and no one under Secret Service protection was in danger, said Tom Sullivan, chief of the Secret Service Uniformed Division.

The name of the man, 51, and his condition were not released by Sullivan. The District of Co-lumbia fire department said the man suffered serious or possibly critical injuries.

Sullivan said the man had claimed he was armed, moved aggressively toward the officer and appeared ready to fire before the officer shot him once. Sullivan did not address whether the man had indeed been armed.

Law enforcement officials were trying to determine a motive and authorities were investigating whether the man had a history of mental illness.

Trump had just begun a coronavirus briefing when a U.S. Secret Service agent escorted him from the briefing room. The president returned minutes later. saving there had been a "shooting" outside the White House that "under control.

"There was an actual shooting and somebody's been taken to the hospital," Trump said. The



ANDREW HARNIK/AF

Members of the U.S. Secret Service stand outside the James Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House on Monday.

president said law enforcement had fired the shots and that he believed the individual who was shot was armed. "It was the suspect who was shot," he said.

Trump said the agent had escorted him to the Oval Office. The White House was placed on lockdown following the incident.

In a Monday night statement to reporters, Sullivan said the shoot-

ing occurred just before 6 p.m. EDT after the man approached the uniformed Secret Service officer near 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and told the officer he had a weapon.

The man then turned around and "ran aggressively toward the officer, and in a drawing motion, removed an object from his clothing," Sullivan said. The suspect then "crouched into a shooter's stance, as if about to fire a weapon" before the officer shot the man once in the torso, he said.

Both the suspect and the officer were taken to the hospital. Sullivan released no information about the officer and would not answer any questions at a late news conference near the scene.

An internal review of the shoot-

ing by the Secret Service was underway, and the Metropolitan Police Department was also in-

vestigating, a standard protocol.
At the White House, Trump
praised Secret Service personnel for their work in keeping him safe. Asked if he was shaken by the incident, Trump asked re-porters: "I don't know. Do I seem

Dems, Biden still juggling virtual convention details

By BILL BARROW Associated Press

ATLANTA - Joe Biden's presidential nominating convention will highlight the U.S. political spectrum from the left flank of New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to the Republican old guard of former Ohio Gov. John Kasich

But that doesn't mean there's room for every prominent Democrat who would get a share of the spotlight at what would have been a traditional convention in Milwaukee before the COVID-19 pandemic made that impossible. Instead. Biden's campaign and other convention planners are continuing negotiations with various power players over how to produce a truncated virtual convention with just eight hours of programming over four nights from Aug. 17-20

Time slots became even more finite Monday when the Democratic National Committee confirmed the inclusion of rank-and-file voters from around the country. They range from a Pennsylvania farmer who voted for Trump in 2016 to a pastor from Reno, Nev., a public transit bus driver from

Atlanta and a union auto worker from Michigan.

Those voters will join several party luminaries: former Presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton, 2016 Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and former first lady Michelle Obama. All of them will speak separately, according to Democrats with knowledge of the schedule. At least three of Biden's former 2020 primary rivals will also be featured: California Sen. Kamala Harris, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren.

But that leaves only so much time for the rest of the party bench - other failed 2020 candidates, sitting governors, congressional leaders - who at a normal convention would at least be guaranteed to take the stage during each night's early prime time hours

"We had two goals in mind: to include more Americans than ever before, and to ensure that all Americans see themselves reflected in what they were viewing," said Stephanie Cutter, a veteran Democratic strategist who is directing the program lineup for Stars and Stripes has partnered with the **Association of Military Spouse Entrepreneurs** on the first-ever

Military Spouse Entrepreneur Guide!

Pick up the guide on August 20th at a base near you!



You can also check it out online at stripes.com!

NATION

Derecho's winds devastate swath of Midwest

AND SETH BORENSTEIN Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa - A rare storm packing 100-mph winds and with power similar to an inland hurricane swept across the Midwest, blowing over trees, flipping vehicles, causing widespread property damage and leaving hundreds of thousands without power as it moved through Chicago and into Indiana and Michigan.

The storm known as a derecho lasted several hours Monday as it tore from eastern Nebraska across Iowa and parts of Wisconsin and Illinois, had the wind speed of a major hurricane, and likely caused more widespread damage than a normal tornado, said Patrick Marsh, science support chief at the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla.

In northern Illinois, the National Weather Service reported a wind gust of 92 mph near Dixon, about 100 miles west of Chicago. and the storm left downed trees and power lines that blocked roadways in Chicago and its suburbs. After leaving Chicago, the most potent part of the storm system moved over north central Indiana by late afternoon.

"It ramped up pretty quick" around 7 a.m. Central time in Eastern Nebraska. I don't think anybody expected widespread winds approaching 100, 110 mph,"



Neighbors use a hand saw to clear a tree blocking Kedzie Avenue in the Logan Square neighborhood of Chicago on Monday, after a strong storm, known as a derecho, passed through the city,

Marsh said

A derecho is not quite a hurricane. It has no eye and its winds come across in a line But the damage it is likely to do spread over such a large area is more like an inland hurricane than a quick more powerful tornado, Marsh said. He compared it to a devastating Super Derecho of 2009. which was one of the strongest on record and traveled more than 1,000 miles in 24 hours, causing

\$500 million in damage, widespread power outages and killing a handful of people.

"This is our version of a hurricane," said Northern Illinois University meteorology professor Victor Gensini. He said Monday's derecho will go down as one of the strongest in recent history and be one of the nation's worst weather events of 2020.

Several people were injured and widespread property damage was reported in Marshall County in central Iowa after 100-mph winds swept through the area, said its homeland security coordinator. Kim Elder.

Elder said winds blew over trees, flipped cars, downed power lines, ripped up road signs and tore roofs off buildings, some of which caught fire.

"We had quite a few people trapped in buildings and cars,' Elder said, adding that the exno fatalities had been reported. 'We're in life-saving mode right

Marshalltown Mayor Joel Greer declared a civil emergency telling residents to stay home and off the streets so that first responders could respond to calls.

MidAmerican Energy said nearly 101,000 customers in the Des Moines area were without power after the storm moved through the area. Reports from spotters filed with the National Weather Service in Des Moines had winds in excess of 70 mph.

Farmers reported that some grain bins were destroyed and fields were flattened, but the extent of damage to Iowa's agriculture industry wasn't immediately

What makes a derecho worse than a tornado is how long it can hover in one place and how large an area the high winds hit, Marsh said. He said winds of 80 mph or even 100 mph can stretch for "20, 30, 40 or God forbid, 100 miles."

What happened Monday morning was the result of unstable. super moist air that had parked for days over the northern plains and finally ramped up into a derecho.

"They are basically self-sustaining amoebas of thunder-storms," Gensini said. "Once they get going like they did across Iowa, it's really hard to stop these

Cause of blast that killed 2 in Baltimore not yet known

Associated Press

BALTIMORE - Two people are now confirmed dead following a natural gas explosion that destroyed three row houses in Baltimore and sent seven people to the hospital, authorities said Tuesday

Baltimore Fire Department spokeswoman Blair Adams said that a man was pulled from the debris shortly before 1 a.m. A woman had been pronounced dead at the scene shortly after Monday morning's explosion. Seven others were hospitalized, five in critical condition, Adams

More than 200 people in the neighborhood were affected by the blast, and about 30 have utilized temporary shelter since the explosion, she said.

The natural gas explosion Monday morning leveled three row houses and ripped open a fourth, trapping people in the debris and scattering shards of glass and other rubble over the northwest Baltimore neighborhood of Reisterstown Station Dozens of firefighters converged on the scene to free the injured.

"It's a disaster. It's a mess. It's unbelievable," said Diane Glover,



Baltimore firefighters carry a person out from the debris after a natural gas explosion in the city Monday. Two deaths were reported.

who lives across the street. Her windows where shattered and her front door was blown open. "I'm still shaken up," she said

hours later. The exact cause remains un-known, and the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. appealed for patience as they investigate

No gas odors were reported be-

fore the explosion, and BGE did not receive any recent gas odor calls from the block of homes that were damaged, the utility said in a statement late Monday.

BGE also said it last inspected the area's gas mains and services in June and July of 2019 and no leaks were found.

US employers post more jobs in June, pull back on hiring

By Christopher Rugarer Associated Press

WASHINGTON - U.S. employers advertised more jobs in June compared with the previous month, but overall hiring fell, painting a mixed picture of the iob market.

The number of jobs posted on the last day in June jumped 9.6% to 5.9 million, the Labor Department said Monday, a solid gain but still below the pre-pandemic level of about 7 million. And employers hired 6.7 million people în June, down from 7.2 million in May, a record high.

The figures suggest that restaurants, bars, retail shops and entertainment venues - businesses that were subject to shutdown orders in April - continued to bring back workers at a healthy pace. Job openings in those industries also rose.

But outside those categories, employers remain reluctant to bring on new workers, a trend that could weigh on the economy in the coming months. Hiring slowed sharply in manufacturing, construction and health care services in June.

The government has previously reported that the nation gained 4.8 million jobs in June. That figure, however, is a net total, while Monday's report, known as the Job Openings and Labor Turn-over Survey, or JOLTS, provides gross hiring figures, without subtracting layoffs or quits.

On Friday, the government said employers added a net 1.8 million jobs, a solid gain but far below June's increase and below the 2.7 million added in May. Employers slashed 22 million positions in March and April, and so far 42% of those lost jobs have been regained.

The number of people quitting their jobs, meanwhile, rose by one-quarter to nearly 2.6 million, a huge gain that is unusual in the depths of the recession, when workers typically try to hold onto their jobs. Many workers may be reluctant to remain in jobs that they believe put their health at risk. Economists also worry that many women and men are quitting jobs to look after children, a trend that could also hold back job growth.

VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

Health officials are quitting or getting fired

From wire reports

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Vilified, threatened with violence and in some cases suffering from burnout, dozens of state and local public health leaders around the United States have resigned or have been fired amid the coronavirus outbreak, a testament to how politically combustible masks, lockdowns and infection data have become

One of the latest departures came Sunday, when California's public health director, Dr. Sonia Angell, was ousted following a technical glitch that caused a delay in reporting hundreds of thousands of virus test results - information used to make decisions about reopening businesses and schools

A review by the Kaiser Health News service and The Associated Press found that at least 49 state and local public health leaders have resigned, retired or been fired since April across 23 states. The list has grown by more than 20 people since the AP and KHN started keeping track in June. Dr. Tom Frieden, former di-

rector of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, called the numbers stunning. He said they reflect burnout, as well as attacks on public health experts and institutions from the highest levels of government, including from President Donald Trump, who has sidelined the CDC during the pandemic.

Arizona

PHOENIX - Gyms, bars and water parks in Arizona that were ordered closed six weeks ago by Gov. Doug Ducey due to the pandemic will be able to reopen at a limited capacity and with health precautions once the spread of the virus within their county is downgraded to moderate or minimal_state officials said Monday

The Ducey administration unveiled the standards as the state's coronavirus outbreak has slowed and it faces a Tuesday deadline for creating an application pro-

cess for reopening gyms.
Some counties have already reached the moderate spread phase, such as Yavapai County, while Maricopa and Pima counties are weeks away from reaching that point.

Once a county reaches the moderate phase, gyms can open at 25% capacity and bars that covert to providing restaurant services can reopen at 50% capacity. Bars and nightclubs that don't want to convert to restaurant services must remain closed for the foreseeable future.

The factors that will be considered are whether a county has fewer than 100 new cases per 100,000 people; a rate of positive tests that is 10% or less; and fewer than 10% of hospital visits for COVID-like symptoms.

As those metrics further improve, businesses can increase their capacity, but Dr. Cara Christ, Arizona's top public health official, said they may not be able to completely return to normal operations until there is a vaccine.

Georgia

ATLANTA - Georgia's governor said Monday that the reopening of some of the state's schools amid the coronavirus outbreak has gone well - except for the widely shared photos of students crowded together without masks.

Democrats strongly pushed back against the assessment that school reopenings were proceeding safely, blaming Kemp and President Donald Trump for failures.

The viral photos showed students standing shoulder to shoul-der in crowded hallways at North Paulding High School northwest of Atlanta and squeezed together for first-day-of-school senior photos at two high schools in nearby Cherokee County. None of the students wore masks.

Hospitalizations for the coronavirus have declined about 10% since peaking at the end of July, according to figures from the



GEOFF CRIMMINS, THE MOSCOW-PULLMAN (IDAHO) DAILY NEWS/AF

Moscow High School football coach Phil Helbling, center, gives instructions to his players during the first day of practice in Moscow, Idaho, on Monday,

Georgia Department of Public Health.

cited the downward trend during a news conference Monday held to showcase a large new coronavirus testing site that recently opened near Atlanta's airport.

Kentucky

FRANKFORT - Declaring "we shouldn't want our kids to be the canaries in the coal mine, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear urged schools in the state to delay reopening in-person classes until late September to provide more time to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

The Democratic governor said Monday that he wants to get children back in school safely during the pandemic, but acknowledged that the state doesn't have the virus under control.

The governor recommended that school districts wait until Sept. 28 to resume in-person classes. Beshear, the father of two children called it a tough but necessary step as the state comes off an escalation of virus cases in

Beshear has aggressively combated the virus with a series of executive actions, including a requirement that most Kentuckians wear masks in public.

Schools across Kentucky shut down in-person learning

March as the coronavirus initial-

North Dakota

FARGO - North Dakota Department of Health officials on Monday kicked off a campaign to convince residents to wear masks in an effort to reduce the spread of the coronavirus, five months after the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in the state.

North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum has not issued a mask mandate, even though he has used his weekly press briefings to give emotional pleas supporting face coverings. He said Monday that he doesn't plan on joining 34 states in requiring masks, instead emphasizing individual responsibility. local decision-making and a "light touch" by government.

The state has set several records for active virus cases in recent days, including Monday's health department update showing that 1,116 people are currently infected. There have been recent snikes in the Bismarck-Mandan area and on the state's American Indian reservations, as well as an increase in positive tests among rural residents.

Asked why the state waited until now to start marketing masks, Burgum said he has been regularly encouraging them but many, particularly young people, are not tuning in to his weekly briefings. It seemed like the right time to "dial up the communication (and) education" with the recent flare-ups and schools about to start, the Republican governor

New York

NEW YORK -Riverdale Nursing Home in the Bronx appears, on paper, to have escaped the worst of the coronavirus pandemic, with an official state count of just four deaths in its 146-bed facility.

The truth, according to the home, is far worse: 21 dead, most transported to hospitals before they succumbed.

New York's coronavirus death toll in nursing homes, already among the highest in the nation. could actually be a significant undercount. Unlike every other state with major outbreaks, New York only counts residents who died on nursing home property and not those who were transported to hospitals and died there.

That statistic that could add thousands to the state's official care home death toll of just over 6,600. But so far, the administration of Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo has refused to divulge the number, leading to speculation the state is manipulating the figures to make it appear it is doing a better than other states and to make a tragic situation less dire.

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VIRUS OUTBREAK

Cases: More testing needed for vaccine, scientists says

FROM FRONT PAGE

As a result, the race to develop and deliver a vaccine has topped the global health care and geopolitical agenda, even as the United Nations has warned that any vaccine must be safe and made available to all, not just the wealthy.

Putin said the Russian vaccine underwent the necessary tests and offered a lasting immunity from the coronavirus. But scientists at home and abroad have warned that rushing to start using the vaccine before Phase 3 trials — which normally last for months and involve thousands of people — could backfire.

"The point is not to be first with a vaccine," U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said Tuesday during a vist to Taiwan when asked about the Russian vaccine. "The point is to have a vaccine that is safe and effective for the American people of the world,"

The U.S. has a half-dozen vaccine candidates under development, China has begun inoculations with an experimental vaccine and European countries have several trials underway.

In Europe, countries that appeared to have gotten their outbreaks under control during nationwide lockdowns and lifted many public restrictions worked to prevent a resurgence of the virus. Finland joined France and Germany in announcing it would test travelers from at-risk countries upon arrival

Spain, which along with Italy first exploded on the continent, now has the most confirmed cases in western Europe at nearly 323,000. The number of new cases has risen steadily in Spain since its strict, three-month lock-down ended June 21, reaching 1,486 on Monday.

In Greece, which imposed strict lockdown measures early and kept its reported cases low during the height of the European epidemic, the government announced new measures Monday to prevent an outbreak. It ordered bars, restaurants and cafes in several regions to shut between midnight and 7 a.m.

Outside Europe, infection rates are exponentially higher.

The number of new cases reported daily continues to rise in India, hitting a rolling seven-day average of \$8,768. In the U.S., which so far has more than 5 million confirmed cases, the daily average has decreased since July 22nd, but remains high at over \$3,000.

South Africa has more than a half-million cases. In the country with the world's largest number of HIV-positive people, the virus has disrupted the supply of antiretroviral drugs that a U.N. agency said could lead to 500,000 additional AIDS-related deaths.



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO JR., RUSSIAN DIRECT INVESTMENT FUND/AP

An employee works with a new vaccine at the Nikolai Gamaleya National Center of Epidemiology and Microbiology in Moscow.

In the 45 days it took reported coronavirus cases worldwide to double to 20 million, the number of reported virus deaths climbed to 736,191 from 499,506, according to the Johns Hopkins count, an average of more than 5,200 a day

About one-fifth of reported deaths, or more than 163,000, have been in the U.S., the most in the world.

Caseloads are still rising quickly in many other countries, including Indonesia and Japan.

In Mexico, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, like Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro and U.S. President Donald Trump, seldom wears a mask and has resisted calls for a strict lockdown, saying Mexicans should be persuaded to observe social distancing, not forced to do so by police or fines.

With nearly 500,000 cases and more than 50,300 deaths, Mexico has struggled with how to curb outbreaks given that just over half its people work off the books with no benefits or unemployment insurance.

A full lockdown would prove too costly for people with little savings and tenuous daily incomes, said Assistant Health Secretary Hugo Lopez-Gatell, the president's point man on the enidemic.

"We do not want a solution that would, in social terms, be more costly than the disease itself," he said.

Mexico's relatively high death rate results partly from the country having one of the world's highest rates of obesity and diabetes. There has also been relatively little testing. Of all tests done, 47% are positive, suggesting that only seriously ill people are getting tests. That has hindered contract tracing.

India reported 53,601 new cases Tuesday as its count of total infections neared 2.3 million. Its reported case mortality rate, at 2%, is much lower than in the U.S. and Brazil.

Vietnam went from having reported no confirmed deaths and very few cases to battling fresh outbreaks that emerged in the seaside city of Danang.

New Zealand, which has been praised for quickly getting the virus under control, on Tuesday reported the first cases of local transmission in the country in 102 days. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said authorities found four cases of the coronavirus in one Auckland household from an unknown source.

Meanwhile, outbreaks in mainland China and semi-autonomous Hong Kong declined, with the number of new community infections in China falling to 13, all in the northwestern region of Xinjiang. Hong Kong counted 69 new

Pelosi holds firm in talks while Mnuchin wants a relief deal

By LISA MASCARO

Associated Press

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Speaker
Nancy Pelosi is not about to

blink.

The Democratic leader has been here before, negotiating a deal with the White House to save the U.S. economy, and lessons from the Great Recession are now punctuating the coronavirus talks. With Republicans again balking at big government bailouts, the Democrats believe they have the leverage, forcing President Donald Trump into a politically risky standoff over help for millions of Americans.

"It's impossible to know whether she has overplayed her hand until we see if there is a COVID package," said Michael Steel, a former top aide to then-Speaker John Roebner.

Monday brought no new talks between Trump's team and negotiators on Capitol Hill as the president tries a go-it-alone strategy. Over the weekend, he launched a series of executive actions that give the appearance of a White House taking charge but may end up providing little help for ordinary Americans.

The president's orders seek to reverse the devastating fallout from unemployment assistance, eviction protections and other aid that has expired. But there are limits, and legal pitfalls, in trying to make an end run around the legislative branch.

Pelosi dismissed Trump's proposals Monday as an "illusion" in an interview on MSNBC.

Trump acknowledged he's still quite open to a deal with Congress.

"So now Schumer and Pelosi want to meet to make a deal. Amazing how it all works, isn't it," he tweeted Monday. "They know my phone number."

With Trump now having played his hand, however, Democrats appear in no rush to show theirs in turn.

It will take days, if not weeks, to sort out what Trump intended with his executive actions, as guidance from the administration is sent to the states. Already, the Department of Labor is religious governors that Trump's promised \$400 weekly jobless benefit boost will actually amount to just \$300 if states are unable to provide the rest, according to information obtained Monday by The Associated Press.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer dismissed Trump's administrative actions as "all sizzle and no steak," held together by "spit and glue."

In the meantime, countless Americans are already feeling the squeeze. What had been a \$600 weekly unemployment benefit boost is gone, as are federal eviction protections. Schools that had been eyeing federal help now face the prospect of reopening on shoestring budgets.

The virus shows no signs of easing, with more than 5 million infections and 160,000 deaths nationwide and stark new evidence that many Americans' jobs may never return.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, on a conference call with governors on Monday, said action by Congress remains the administration's "first choice."

Mnuchin and Vice President Mike Pence urged the governors to reach out to congressional leaders and push for legislation, according to audio of the call obtained by AP.

"Anytime they want to meet—and they're wiling to negotiate and have a new proposal—we're more than happy to meet," Mnuchin said later at the White House. He confirmed he has not spoken to the Democratic leaders since talks collansed Friday

Pelosi has been here before, at the start of the last recession, when George W. Bush's Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson dropped to a knee at the White House and all but begged her not to let a financial rescue plan fail in Congress.

Now, facing a far greater crisis

— the raging virus and economic
shutdown — Pelosi is standing

She told The Associated Press earlier this year that Mnuchin is a "good listener" and they have a good rapport, having negotiated a relief package in March

relief package in March.
But she said, "When President
Bush was president, he would say
to me, 'Secretary Paulson speaks
for me.' This case, I don't - I'm not

Negotiations over the latest coronavirus bill shifted with the arrival of Mark Meadows, the president's new chief of staff, a conservative former head of the House Freedom Caucus who is widely seen as a counter-force to Mnuchin.

During days of closed-door talks, Meadows often declares one issue after another to be a "nonstarter," according to an aide granted anonymity to discuss the private sessions.

Another aide said both Meadows and Mnuchin used that phrase several times as they pushed back against the Democratic proposals.

Pelosi has said repeatedly that Trump and the Republicans don't grasp the gravity of the situation facing the nation.

She and Schumer have put their latest compromise offer on the table, dropping their \$3 trillion-plus package of relief by \$1 trillion to \$2.5 trillion, and asking the White House to do the same, raising its \$1 trillion proposal to at least \$2 trillion. That was rejected last week.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

2 injured when boat explodes on river

OR PORTLAND — Two people were injured in an explosion aboard a boat on the Columbia River along the Washington-Oregon border.

KOIN-TV reported that a Vancouver fire boat responded to reports of the explosion shortly after 10 a.m. Sunday. Emergency crews extinguished the blaze on the 19-foot ski boat and burning fuel that was on the water.

The two victims suffered burns and other injuries that were not considered life threatening. The cause was under investigation.

Dog killed rabid fox on family's property

NC DALLAS — A 1-yearold pit bull and a rabid fox got into a tussle that ended up killing the fox after the animal appeared on the dog's owners' property in North Carolina.

The incident happened Thursday in Dallas, a town about 25 miles west of Charlotte, news outlets reported.

State health officials confirmed two days later that the fox's remains tested positive for rabies, the Gaston County Police Department in a news release.

The pit bull was up to date on her vaccinations for rabies, police said. She also received a rabies booster shot.

Medics OK after thief charges with machete

MS TUPELO—A woman in Mississippi is accused of attempting to steal an ambulance and charging a paramedic with a machete.

The suspect began driving the vehicle Saturday night in Tupelo as medics were attending to a patient near the ambulance, the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported.

A paramedic was able to reach

A parametic was able to reach into the ambulance and turn off the engine, stopping the woman from driving it. She then exited the vehicle and charged a medic with a machete before running away, said Tupelo police spokesperson Capt. Chuck McDougald.

The suspect was captured by authorities soon after. There were no injuries, the newspaper reported. The woman faces misdemeanor charges. Authorities did not immediately identify her.

Authorities work to find escaped chimpanzees

MO JEFFERSON COUNTY—Authorities were working Sunday to recapture two chimpanzees that escaped from a sanctuary in east-

ern Missouri.

At least one of the two escaped chimps had been tranquilized by Sunday afternoon while the other one was contained within a perimeter set up by Jefferson County sheriff's deputies and animal control personnel.

Sheriff's office spokesman Grant Bissell told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch the plan was to tranquilize the chimps and then



ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AF

Delivering food to families

Staff from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce distribute over 1,400 boxes of meat products from Merchants Foodservice, 2,200 gallons of milk from Borden Dairy and 42,000 eggs from Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., to the public at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson, Miss., on Friday as part of the Farmers to Families Food Box Program. The distribution of consumables are part of the state department of agriculture's continued efforts to assist the public during this time of need.

return them to the sanctuary that is about 35 miles southwest of St. Louis near the town of Festus.

Bissell said authorities have some experience dealing with chimps because one of these same chimpanzees escaped from the sanctuary just a few weeks ago.

Serial bank robber returns after 4 years

POTOMAC — Police in Maryland said they arrested an aging, serial bank robber who resurfaced after apparently being silent for four years.

The Washington Post reported that police in Montgomery Country arrested James Clyde Wersick, 71, on Tuesday after authorities said he robbed a PNC branch in Potomac.

Police said that Wersick robbed a string of banks between 2012 and 2016 and took more than \$50,000. He faces 16 felony counts.

His attorney during a bail review, Selena Alonzo, said that Wersick is a master electrician whose work had been drying up because of the coronavirus pandemic. She added that he suffers from chronic diabetes and colitis. Detectives said that Wersick told them in an interview that he was hungry and had bills to pa THE CENSUS

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The cost of a fan cutout placed in the Cincinnati Reds' stadium, which is how Aaron Nemo helped his brother and sister-in-law announce that they were expecting their first child. When he was asked to help them make the announcement, he cut out their sonogram picture and

submitted baby Nemo to be a fan cutout at the spectator-less Great American Ballpark, WXIX-TV reported. Aaron and his brother, Adam, said watching Reds games has now turned into "finding Nemo" as they scan the stands for the cutout.

Man seeking pizza drives into pond, dies

STUART — A Florida man died after driving into a pond as a deputy tried to pull him over early Sunday morning.

The Martin County Sheriffs Office reported that Timothy Joseph Brunning, 26, of Stuart was driving at a high rate of speed when a deputy attempted to make a traffic stop. But Brunning drove through a cul-de-sac and into a pond, the sheriff's office said in a Facebook post.

Brunning died while still inside the vehicle. A passenger was able to free himself and told investigators that the two of them were out earlier, went home and then decided to go out and get pizza. The passenger said he urged Brunning to slow down before

Man accused of driving impaired for 14th time

FARMINGTON — A Kirtland man is accused of driving impaired for the 14th time after being pulled over recently with a 30-pack of beer in his vehicle, authorities said.

Farmington police said Anthony Chee, 46, is facing a felony count of aggravated DWI.

He's also facing a misdemeanor count of driving while his license is revoked and misdemeanor counts of failure to maintain traffic lane, improper turning at intersection and no seat belts.

Semi truck carrying honey overturns, spills

INDIANAPOLIS — Crews were cleaning up a sticky mess Sunday after a semi truck carrying honey overturned on an Indianapolis highway.

The incident happened around 8 a.m. Sunday on the ramp leading from Interstate 70 eastbound to Interstate 65 northbound, according to authorities.

Indiana State Police Sgt. John Perrine said the driver wasn't injured.

The ramp was expected to be closed for several hours during clean up efforts.

Bouncer charged after patron gets brain injury

GA ST. SIMONS ISLAND
— A bar bouncer in
coastal Georgia has been charged
with aggravated battery after
punching a patron so hard he was
hospitalized with a brain injury.
A Glynn County police report

said Randall Collins was jailed after a fight broke out at closing time at Brogen's South pub and restaurant on St. Simons Island.

The bouncer told police he was trying to get customers to leave when Elijah Mukes began an argument and hit him with a beer bottle, The Brunswick News reported. Witnesses said there was more fighting outside and police found Mukes lying on the ground at about 2 a.m. Monday.

From wire reports

NATION

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Pompeo warns of China, Russia authoritarianism

By Matthew Lee Associated Press

PILSEN, Czech Republic — U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo warned on Tuesday of a rise in authoritarianism led by Russia, China and Iran that threatens freedoms around the world.

Opening a four-nation tour of eastern and central Europe in the Czech Republic, Pompeo paid tribute to American forces that liberated western Czechoslovakia in 1945 and lauded values shared by Americans and Czechs.

Visiting the "Thank You, America" monument in the city Pilsen, Pompeo urged continued vigilance to protect democratic gains made after World War II and then again after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Pompeo did not, however, mention unrest and concerns about significant democratic backsliding in near-

by Belarus after elections there Sunday.

"It is worth remembering, even as we celebrate, that because authoritarianism is still alive in Beijing, in Moscow and in Tehran there remains work to do," he said in a brief speech at the monument before observing a wreath laying with the Czech foreign minister.

Earlier, Pompeo visited the Patton Museum in Pilsen, which commemorates the Army general's WWII leadership.

Pompeo plans to use his visit, which continues Wednesday, to push his hosts to counter Russian and Chinese influence. Russia and Chinese are active and seeking greater roles throughout the continent in the energy, infrastructure and telecommunications sectors, a trend the United States is keen to reverse.

In his talks, Pompeo will likely



PETR DAVID JOSEK/AP

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, top left, arrives with his wife, Susan Pompeo, at the airport in Prague, Czech Republic, on Tuesday.

face questions about the Trump administration's decision to reduce the U.S. military presence in Germany. Pompeo did not address the matter in his comments on Tuesday. President Donald Trump wants to withdraw thousands of American troops from bases in Germany and redeploy some of them eastward, including to neighboring Poland, the last stop on Pompeo's week-long trip.

In Prague on Wednesday, Pompeo will meet Czech President Milos Zeman and Prime Minister Andrej Babis to discuss nuclear energy cooperation and "efforts to counter malign actions of Russia and communist China," the State Department said. Energy and the tenuous political situation in the Balkans will top Pompeo's agenda with Slovenian officials in Ljubljana, where he is expected to deliver a statement with the foreign minister about the security of 5G networks, the department said.

In Vienna, Pompeo will meet Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz to review trade relations and regional security. Pompeo will also hold talks with the head of the Vienna-based U.N. nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is charged with monitoring Iran's adherence to the 2015 nuclear deal from which the U.S. has withdrawn.

Air traffic down, gun seizures up at airports

Associated Press

DALLAS — With air traffic nearing a five-month high, airport security is finding guns in passenger carry-on bags at three times the rate recorded before the nandemic.

And 80% of the guns are loaded.

The discoveries at airports comes at a time when U.S. gun sales are surging, and analysts believe many of those purchases are being made by first-time buyers.

Officers seized just over 300 guns in July, or 15.3 guns for every million people screened, compared with 5.1 per million people in July of last year, the Transportation Security Administration said Monday.
TSA Administrator David Pe-

TSA Administrator David Pekoske said there has been a significant increase in loaded guns at checkpoints. He said screeners are already working in conditions of heightened risks and that "no one should be introducing new ones."

FBI figures show that there were more than 3.6 million firearms background checks requested on buyers in July, a 79% increase from July 2019, following a 70% increase in June.

Cowen analyst Cai von Rumohr, who tracks gun sales, said the increases are likely due to fear about COVID-19 lockdowns, civil unrest, and former Vice President Joe Biden's lead over President Donald Trump in polls ahead of the Nov. 3 election "given his more restrictive stance on gun control relative to President Trump."

Atlanta's major airport had the most gun seizures last month with 27, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth and Denver at 13 each and 12 at the Nashville airport.

Bill expands housing grant eligibility for disabled vets

By Rose L. Thayer Stars and Stripes

President Donald Trump signed a bill into law Saturday to increase funding and access to a grant program that allows certain disabled veterans to modify their homes to meet their physical needs.

The Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019, H.R. 3504, updates a Department of Veterans Affairs program that provides money for veterans with certain permanent, service-connected disabilities, with the most common being bilateral amputees and paralyzed veterans. The new law increases the funding available to these veterans from about \$85,000 to about \$98,000. It also extends the benefit to blind veterans and allows beneficiaries to access the funding up to six times instead of three.

Former Army Capt. Ryan Kules, a double amputee for whom the House version of the bill was named, has spoken about how beneficial the grant can be and how extending it to veterans multiple times would drastically improve their quality of life. He was able to use the full grant when he purchased his first home. However, once he needed to buy a larger home to accommodate his growing family, the cost of widening hallways and adding other wheelchair accessibility improvements was at his expense.

"I know the difference that these benefits can make on a warrior's home life and I experienced their shortcomings as well," Kules said. The changes, he said, "ensure that warriors who are severely in-

that warriors who are severely injured and paid a heavy, heavy sacrifice for their country have the appropriate adaptations to live in their homes, not only today, but for many tomorrows down the road." Paul Benne, the retired Army

colonel for whom the Senate version of the bill was named, died in December before seeing it pass. He was 54.

Thayer.rose@stripes.com Twitter: @Rose_Lori







Lebanese government resigns after Beirut blast, public anger

Associated Press

BEIRUT - Lebanon's prime minister stepped down from his job Monday in the wake of the catastrophic explosion in Beirut that has triggered public outrage, saving he has come to the conclusion that corruption in the country is "bigger than the state."

The move risks opening the way to dragged-out negotiations over a new Cabinet amid urgent calls for reform. It follows a weekend of anti-government protests after the Aug. 4 explosion in Beirut's port that decimated the facility and caused widespread destruction, killing at least 160 people and injuring about 6,000 others.

In a brief televised speech after three of his ministers resigned, Prime Minister Hassan Diah said he and his government were stepping down.

"May God protect Lebanon," he said, repeating the last phrase three times. As he spoke, protesters demonstrated in the streets near parliament for a third

The moment typified Lebanon's political dilemma. Since October, there have been mass demonstrations demanding the departure of the entire sectarian-based leadership over entrenched corruption and incompetence.

But the ruling oligarchy has held onto power for so long since the end of the civil war in 1990 - that it is difficult to find a credible political figure untainted by connections to it.

Diab blamed corrupt politicians who preceded him for the "earth-

quake" that has hit Lebanon.
"They (the political class) should have been ashamed of themselves because their corruption is what has led to this disaster that had been hidden for seven years," he added.

"I have discovered that corruption is bigger than the state and that the state is paralyzed by this (ruling) clique, and cannot confront it or get rid of it," said Diab, who was a professor at the American University of Beirut before he took the job.

With the mass resignation, the call for early elections appears dead, so the same factions will debate on forming a new Cabinet.

Diab's government. was dominated by the Hezbollah militant group and its allies and seen as one-sided, was basically doomed from the start, tasked with meeting demands for reform but made up of all the factions that reformers want out.

The pressure from the streets and from French President Emmanuel Macron, who visited Beirut last week after the blast could push the political factions to put aside their differences and form a unity government. Diab's government largely excluded Hezbollah's opponents, the Eurasia Group said in an analysis, adding that the factions may now see the need to carry out greater reform.

The group said a government of independent experts could be created, although Hezbollah is a main obstacle to that since it fears that would eventually lead to the group being forced out of the political system.



Police use truncheons on protesters during a mass rally following the presidential election in Minsk, Belarus, on Monday.

Belarus challenger urges end to protests, leaves the country

Associated Press

MINSK, Belarus - The top opposition candidate in Belarus' presidential vote, who refused to concede her defeat amid a massive police crackdown on protesters, said Tuesday that she left the country and is now in Lithuania.

Looking tired and distressed, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, a former teacher and political novice, apologized to her supporters in a video statement and said it was her own choice to leave the

country.
"I know that many of you will understand me, many others will condemn me and some will even hate me. But God forbid you ever face the choice that I faced," she said. She later urged her supporters to respect the law and avoid clashes with police.

Sunday's election results showing authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko winning a sixth term by landslide led thousands of people to protest.





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New this week: Netflix has your superhero fix

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Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press' entertainment journalists of what's arriving on TV, streaming services and music platforms this week.

"Project Power": Missing new superhero pics? Netflix has one up its sleeve in "Project Power," hitting the streamer Fri-day. The film, from the "Catfish" filmmaking team Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman (who also directed the underrated thriller 'Nerve," with Emma Roberts), imagines a world in which a pill can give temporary superpowers. Jamie Foxx and Joseph Gordon-Levitt star.
"Boys State": One of the biggest sales

from this year's Sundance Film Festival. this documentary takes us into an American Legion-sponsored leadership experiment in which 1,100 teenage boys head to Austin, Texas, to "run" for governor. Described as a "political coming-of-age story," "Boys State," on Apple TV+ Friday, is an entertaining and eye-opening glimpse at politics, youth and possibly our future.

Hit the road with Wim Wenders: German director Wim Wenders turns 75 this week, and the Criterion Channel is celebrating with a "Directed by" series, available Sunday. In these dog days of quarantine August, whether you've escaned for the open road or simply dream of doing so, let Wenders and cinematographer Robby Muller take you on a cinematic road trip with his cadre of lost souls and searchers. My ideal double feature starts with a trip through Germany as a photographer tries to help a young girl find her family in "Alice in the Cities," and ends in the American southwest as Harry Dean Stanton comes to terms with what he's lost in "Paris, Texas."

- AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr



Jamie Foxx, left, and Dominique Fishback appear in a scene from "Project Power." The film, also starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, imagines a world in which a pill can give temporary superpowers. It comes to Netflix on Friday.

To Brazil, with love: Gloria Estefan takes on Brazilian sounds on her new album coming out Thursday. The 18-track "Brazil305," her first release in seven years, includes 14 songs that are new yersions of Estefan classics with new arrangements thanks to help from musicians from the Brazilian state Bahia. The album also honors Estefan's Miami roots - hence 305 in its title - fusing two worlds to create an album full of rhythm and passion.

Multi-platinum country singer Kane Brown's singles released this year will be featured on his seven-song mixtape coming out Friday. "Mixtape Vol. 1" will in-clude the country hit "Cool Again," "Be Like That" with Swae Lee and Khalid, the John Legend duet "Last Time I Say Sorry' and "Worldwide Beautiful," Brown's song about global peace that was released in the wake of the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and other Black people. The mixtape will in-clude three unreleased songs: "Worship You," "BFE" and "Didn't Know What Love Was."

AP Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu

Television

Selena Gomez is on new turf - the kitchen - in "Selena + Chef," a 10-episode cooking series that debuts Thursday on the HBO Max streaming service. The music star and actor is joined by chefs including Angelo Sosa, Nancy Silverton and Roy Choi as she tries new dishes with tips from the pros. While showcasing the "struggle and the joy of learning to cook," the series will highlight food-related charities and help raise funds for them, HBO Max said.

Can an American football coach with a small-time college career make it as a pro soccer coach in England? Will his efforts to succeed be funny? The answer may be found in "Ted Lasso," a new Apple TV+ series starring Jason Sudeikis as the character he played in NBC Sports promotions for the Premier League. Sudeikis and Bill Lawrence ("Scrubs") are producing the series whose cast includes Hannah Waddingham, Brendan Hunt and Jeremy Swift. The first three episodes debut Friday, with new episodes released on consecutive Fridays.

- AP Television Writer Lynn Elber

Politically charged episode of 'black-ish' lands on Hulu

A politically charged episode of "black-ish" shelved by ABC in 2017 has found a home on Hulu a corporate sibling of the Disneyowned broadcast network.

"I cannot wait for everyone to finally see the episode for themselves," series creator Kenya Barris posted Monday on social media. Barris said he hopes the half-hour episode, titled "Please Baby Please," fulfills its original intent to inspire vital dialogue about "where we want our country to go moving forward and, most importantly, how we get there together."

He asked producer Walt Disney Television to reconsider making the episode available and, in recognition of "the importance of this moment, they listened and agreed," he said.

The change of heart comes amid ongoing protests and calls for broad social change prompted by the death in May of George Floyd, a Black man, while in Minneapolis police custody.

When ABC decided to pull the episode from the 2017-18 season and put it on ice, the network lauded "black-ish" for its deft examination of "delicate social issues" in an entertaining and educational manner. But 'creative differences" over the episode couldn't be resolved. ABC said.

Pratt, Schwarzenegger greet baby daughter

Chris Pratt and Katherine Schwarzenegger say they are "beyond thrilled" and "extremely blessed" after she gave birth to their first child together.

The 41-year-old "Avengers" actor and the 30-year-old children's book author announced the birth of daughter Lyla Maria Schwarzenegger Pratt in a post on their Instagram accounts Monday.

Banderas announces positive COVID-19 test

Antonio Banderas says he's tested positive for COVID-19 and is celebrating his 60th birthday in quarantine.

The Spanish actor announced his positive test in a post Monday on Instagram. Banderas said he would spend his time in isolation reading, writing and "making plans to begin to give meaning to



Kenya Barris, creator of "blackish," shown in 2018, is pleased that an unaired, racially charged episode of the show is on Hulu.

my 60th year to which I arrive full of enthusiasm."

Other news

■ James Harris, who gained international fame as "Kamala the Ugandan Giant," a massive professional wrestler who buried opponents with his trademark 'splash," has died from COVID-19. He was 70.

■ "MacGruber," a parody skit on "Saturday Night Live" that became a movie, is coming back to the small screen. The NBC-Universal streaming platform Peacock said Monday that Will Forte again plays a mullet-haired hero for a new half-hour series.

Sara Bareilles to star in Peacock comedy

Sara Bareilles will be acting against type in her next role: She'll be playing a washed-up musician.

The NBCUniversal streaming platform Peacock said Monday the Grammy-winning artist and Broadway songwriter Bareilles

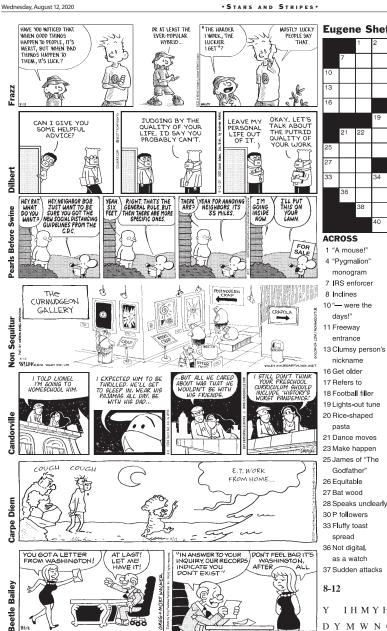
will star in "Girls5eva," co-produced by Tina Fey The comedy is about a one-hit-wonder girl group called

"Girls5eva" from the 1990s whose members reunite to give their pop star dreams one more shot.



casting was revealed, nor

the date of its premiere.

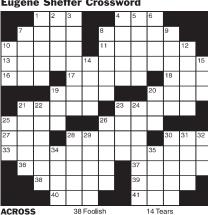


We must send

word to Parma

Facebook.com/BizarroComics

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



- 1 "A mouse!"
- 4 "Pygmalion" monogram
- 7 IRS enforcer
- 8 Inclines
- 10 "- were the
- days!"
- 11 Freeway
- entrance
- 13 Clumsy person's nickname
- 16 Get older
- 17 Refers to
- 18 Football filler
- 20 Rice-shaped
- pasta
- 23 Make happen
- 25 James of "The
- Godfather'
- 26 Equitable
- 27 Bat wood
- 30 P followers
- 33 Fluffy toast
- spread
- as a watch
- 37 Sudden attacks

- 39 Big fair, for short
- 40 Summer in Paris
- 41 Insult, slangily
- **DOWN**
- 1 Overact
- 2 Right on the map
- 3 Patella
- 4 Bottled spirit?
- 5 Rural buildings
- 6 Hose woe
- 7 Hoodlum
- 8 Some artists
- studios
- 9 Fingerpaints
- 10 TV schedule
- abbr.
- 12 Nobel, for one

 - 35 Uber alternative Answer to Previous Puzzle
 - ETA ΑМ SEW L Н 1 М Т R Е ΜО 0 RORIT ORBET S DENS

15 Hit show letters

21 Malia's sister

22 Sesame paste

23 Street edge

24 Promised

25 Crow's cry

28 Pie-in-the-

29 Sierra -

31 Make over

32 Soon-to-be

grads

face sound

30 Popular swabs

34 Glazier's sheet

26 Arbiter

19 Sawbuck

20 "Shoo!"



DISCOVERY of the GRATER ANTILLES

CRYPTOQUIP

IHMYHTH YSDNWHMYHE D Z Q MWNG IHHGNVVJGYPW. SEYHG Q P FNJMQ'TH FZMMHQ FNVEZQH FNGEZQ

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF JOURNALIST JOAN WERE TO START A BIG INFERNO, WOULD THAT BE DUBBED THE GREAT FIRE OF LUNDEN?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals H

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Executive actions are overreach, and endless

By HENRY OLSEN Special to The Washington Post

resident Donald Trump's weekend executive actions, predictably, have been criticized as unconstitutional executive overreach. Our increasingly bitter partisan polarization, however, makes it highly likely the next president will go even further.

Our constitutional system rests on the idea of the separation of powers. Every schoolchild learns this in U.S. history class: Congress makes the laws, the president enforces the laws and the courts apply the laws. The trouble comes from the obvious fact that both the enforcement and application of the laws can, and often do, occupy the space normally thought to be reserved to lawmaking. When a court interprets a law creatively, as Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts did when construing Obamacare, it effectively writes a new law. In his opinion, Roberts created out of whole cloth the concept that a state could choose to reject the law's Medicaid expansion while participating in the remainder of Medicaid. That is plainly a choice Congress could have made but did not, making Roberts and his majority into the lawmakers, not the people's elected representatives.

The same thorny issue arises in the enforcement of the laws. Forget President Barack Obama's famous threat to unilaterally solve the nation's immigration dispute

— "I've got a pen" — that resulted in his Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. His decision not to enforce federal drug laws against marijuana after Colorado and Washington legalized its sale is the bigger offense against congressional sovereignty. The action clearly established the principle that the president can ignore a law if he or she disagrees with it.

Even the dullest minds can drive a truck through that to undo congressional power wholesale.

That's effectively what President Donald Trump is doing with his order to grant employees deferrals on their payroll taxes. He's effectively saying that he has the power not to collect taxes levied by Congress, and if he can do that for the payroll taxes that fund Social Security and Medicare, he can do that for any tax. Imagine what power that coveys: A president can decide which group to favor with his be-neficence and bestow literally billions of dollars on them. Hurt by Chinese imports? Trump in his wisdom can defer your corporate taxes. Angry about the limitation on the deductibility of state and local taxes on federal income tax forms, which was part of Trump's 2017 tax cut bill? No worries, President Joe Biden can direct the IRS to defer collection of the taxes on those excess deductions and decline to prosecute offenders. Either set of actions would be obviously unconstitutional, but both flow directly from the Obama and Trump precedents.

One could say the court would sten in to stop these shenanigans, but the politicization of our courts means it would likely do so on a selective basis. Roberts again strikes here, as his recent decision in the case preventing Trump from undoing Obama's DACA program without going through the lengthy process mandated by the Administrative Procedure Act would logically require Trump's successor to do the same thing. Should the court denv Trump's orders but let its DACA precedent stand, it will stand revealed for what many people already think it is: a political entity to which the law is merely the means for carrying out its political will.

Political polarization makes executive

power gains even likelier. Obama's DACA program was his answer to legislative stalemate between Democrats who wanted some form of amnesty for undocumented immigrants and Republicans who did not. Trump's orders arose from a similar stalemate in the discussions over the proposed COVID-19 relief bill. Anything that appears intractable cries out for a solution, especially if the dispute is long-standing or if the action deals with a genuine crisis Trump acted because both sides were unable or unwilling to make genuine compromises in the national interest.

Other serious democracies do not have this problem. France's president is often given power by the legislature to rule by decree, but he does not act on his own without such authorization. Presidents elsewhere often have to rely upon their ability to persuade the legislature to act, such as when former Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto pushed the oppositioncontrolled Mexican congress to amend the country's constitution to permit foreign companies to invest in and own portions of the country's oil and gas sector. Parliamentary systems do not have an independent executive that can assert such power, but even coalition governments are able to overcome their differences and act to solve crises and pressing problems. The United States is exceptional in its governmental ineptitude.

Genuine dictators often arise to establish order when democracies prove unable to effectively govern. Words on old parchment won't control an executive determined to rule. Only a congress and political parties who care more about the country and less about their relative power can do that. We, the people, should demand that they do.

Henry Olsen is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

My child is safe in Beirut. Many others are not.

By ALEX ROWELL Special to The Washington Post

hat sounded like a bomb," said my wife just after 6 p.m. last Tuesday, as we lathered soap on our 2-year-old daughter in our shower.

A lot of things sound like bombs in Lebanon, and turn out to be fireworks or back-firing motorcycles. From time to time, though, they really are bombs, and my wife who lived through the tail end of Lebanon's civil war, plus the 2006 war between Israel and Hezbollah and a few dozen other miscellaneous car and suicide bombs over the years - knows the sound better than I do. Running to the living room for a better view of the plume of smoke leaping from above the port hundreds of meters into the sky. I had almost made it to the balcony when the bang arrived.

In February, media around the world shared a video from Syria of a father who had taught his 3-year-old daughter to laugh at the sound of airstrikes around their home. as though it were a game, hoping this might prevent her being traumatized. In the first couple of seconds after the blast, believing I was seeing the opening salvo of an Israeli air campaign that could inaugurate weeks of war, I wondered: Would I now become like that father, forced to find new ways to alleviate my daughter's terror? The bang turned out to have a different

cause — turned out, in fact, to likely be fireworks, though not in a way any of us could have imagined. All indications at present are that an accidental fire at Beirut's port set off an explosion which then ignited 2.750 tons of nearby ammonium nitrate. The New York Times reports that "it was one of the largest non-nuclear explosions in recent history." Our home is more than 6 miles from the blast site, yet it sounded as though lightning had struck our doorstep the world's largest hammer crashing down on its heaviest anvil.

Mercifully, we were far enough away to be unscathed, and nothing happened to our house except a few cabinet doors blowing open. Somehow, we managed to put on a show of composure and continue the bath, books and bed routine, all while our hands shook with adrenaline and we could see the city burning from every window. (It's remarkable, the strength children can give adults in such moments.) There are no words to express how grateful we are that our daughter has shown no signs, so far at least, of having been marked by the event.

Yet a huge number of children were not so fortunate. There were minors of all ages among the 7,000 injured, including newborns showered with flying glass shards in maternity wards. Some children, such as 3-year-old Alexandra Naggear, whose cherubic face now fills social media timelines were among the more than 220 people who lost their lives. A staggering 80,000 children have been displaced by the damage to homes, according to UNICEF, which added that a "children's hospital in the Karantina area, which had a specialized unit treating critical newborns, was destroyed." The stories of children placed into situations of unfathomable horror are too numerous to document. One week on, there remain children missing and unaccounted for.

For all these children, an incalculable physical and psychological toll awaits. Already, reports are widespread of children wetting themselves repeatedly, jumping at the slightest noises, asking to hold their parents' hands at all times and reenacting the scene of being thrown across the room. Who can say what these kids will suffer in vears to come?

My wife, born four years before the end of the civil war, with vivid memories of hiding in bathrooms as artillery battered her neighborhood, was supposed to belong to the last generation of Lebanese children to grow up amid the cacophony of bombs Yet the explosions didn't end for long, and now here we are, 30 years on, raising our own child to the same abominable sound.

On Saturday Laccompanied my wife to a large demonstration in downtown Beirut, where tens of thousands of her compatriots demanded those responsible for last Tuesday's massacre be held fully to account, as a first step in a comprehensive overhaul of the country's moribund — and murderpolitical system. The authorities responded with a hailstorm of tear gas and rubber bullets, injuring hundreds and engulfing the city center once again in smoke and chaos, all while the ground was still smothered in smashed glass and rubble.

On Monday evening, Prime Minister Hassan Diab announced his resignation. This was the bare minimum sought by the angry, anguished Lebanese who took to the streets. But unless far more extensive change takes place, ousting the warlords and mafiosi for whom Diab was a mere frontman, the cycle of death and dysfunction will continue without end.

Those with the means to do so will join the rapidly growing convoy of one-way flights out of Beirut. The rest will be left to raise their children in a broken country, at the mercy of criminals who would quite literally see the capital burn rather than govern responsibly.

Alex Rowell is a writer in Lebanon and the author of "Vintage Humour: The Islamic Wine Poetry of Abu Nuwas.

OPINION

Where's Madison Avenue's COVID campaign?

By DAVID ZURAWIK
The Baltimore Sun

ike a lot of Americans, I am down-hearted about the lack of progress on COVID-19 this summer. As one of the good little boys and girls who wore a mask, social distanced and only went out when it was necessary to buy groceries or medications, I am also angry at those who didn't.

Here we are five months in with more than 5 million infections and more than 162,000 dead, and communities that have flattened the curve are seeing it rise again. Why can't we tame this killer?

I am not a medical doctor or researcher, so I am not in a position to judge progress or lack of it in that realm. But I am a media critic, and the question that is driving me nuts is why we have not been able to come up with a media messaging campaign that is effective in getting people to do the few things that we know will get the virus under control, like wearing masks and social distancing.

Come on, this is the land of Madison Avenue and the home of Don Draper. We create ads that get men who work in offices and haul nothing heavier than bags of groceries home from the store to buy \$50,000 jacked-up pickup trucks that can climb over boulders. We created ads that made women think smoking cigarettes was empowering them when there was plenty of evidence that it was in fact killing them. And in five months, all the media and advertising talent in this nation can't get on the side of the angels and create something that would make people running around

without masks see their anti-social and reckless behavior in a more responsible

Thave been stewing about this since seeing an Aug. 7 report online at CNN.com saying the Department of Health and Human Services was about to launch a series of public service announcements featuring celebrities talking about COVID-19.

Michael Caputo, assistant secretary for public affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, declined to name the celebrities, according to CNN. But he was quoted as to what an ad might look like.

"Maybe a football player in Houston will sit down and talk about Houston's problems with Dr. Fauci... Or the surgeon general will be sitting on the Capitol Hill steps. We'll have two cameras, one on him and one over his shoulder. He'll be eating a sandwich. His iPad rings. He puts the sandwich down and he picks it up. And that rapper or football player or celebrity or rock 'n' roll star or whoever it is will have two cameras on them in Atlanta, and they'll ask Dr. Adams questions about COVID-19."

Health and Human Services officials did not immediately respond to a request for an interview. And it is unfair to judge the product before it's seen. But I have two thoughts based on the news of the campaign. Why is this only being done now after five months? And why is it being run by a government agency, when government agencies aren't exactly known for the kind of campaigns that can compete in the media marketplace with the products of Madison Avenue and entertainment conglomerates like Disney?

To those who would point to President Donald Trump and the way he politicized masks as the reason why no government agency launched such a campaign earlier, I won't disagree. The connection between the president and the agencies he controls is obvious. And he's been perfectly willing to politicize agencies and not wear a mask.

But blaming Trump for almost everything that's wrong in American life and stopping there is a mistake. It's too easy and it obscures the more complicated truth that in some cases, as a people, we all share blame.

Look at World War II and the way Hollywood stepped up with its biggest stars, best directors, writers and promoters to sell war bonds and make films steeped in pro-American messages that are still delighting audiences on DVD today. Where was the advertising genius of Hollywood and the major entertainment conglomerates on face masks, social distancing and staying out of packed bars?

Think back to the 1960s and how an idealistic group of educators, public television producers and advertising experts decided to take the TV techniques used by Madison Avenue to sell children sugar-laden snacks and instead use it to teach letters and numbers to preschoolers. Where is the kind of genius that gave us "Sesame Street" on COVID-19 messaging?

The one thing we've known how to do since the arrival of TV in American living rooms in the 1950s is use it to affect behavior. Why didn't we do it this time?

David Zurawik is The Baltimore Sun's media critic.



C.B. SCHMELTER, CHATTANOOGA (TENN.) TIMES FREE PRESS/AP

A sign encouraging social distancing is seen during the "World's Longest Yard Sale" on Sunday in Dunlap, Tenn. The six state yard sale, which was held despite concerns over the coronavirus pandemic, stretched from Alabama to Michigan.

Japan soon could see a 2nd virus wave. Will Abe act?

By WILLIAM PESEK

Special to The Washington Post

s President Donald Trump despairs over his tanking approval ratings, he can at least take solace in the fact that his pal Shinzo Abe's numbers are worse.

Arguably no leader in Asia is having a worse 2020 than Japan's prime minister. Disenchantment over Abe's coronavirus response is knocking support rates for his Cabinet toward the 30% range (and even lower in some cases).

After winning global praise for containing the first wave in May, Japan is facing a steady resurgence. Its second wave will seem tame by U.S. standards. Japan's entire coronavirus death toll since January—about 1,052 deaths—is roughly what the United States sees in a day. Even as Japan discovers new infection clusters, its overall recorded case load of 49,605 is less than that of the Bronx.

Yet a dearth of testing and Abe's aloof demeanor have many Japanese fearing the nation is sitting on a ticking time bomb of sorts. Abe, not unlike his ally in the White House, has largely withdrawn from day-to-day decision-making. This has Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga rebutting reports, and dodging questions, about Abe's health — and if his days are numbered.

What is clearly concerning is the lack of urgency as infections heat up anew. The problem was a hasty and haphazard repening of the economy. Abe cribbed from the Trumpian playbook and favored getting back to business. That meant tens of millions of people who had been working at home for the first time in their careers were suddenly under pressure to turn up



Grana Nama/AD

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wears a mask as he carries the wreath to offer during a ceremony to mark the 75th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing at Peace Park in Nagasaki on Sunday.

Anyone who has seen Tokyo's jampacked subways, even at off-peak times, can understand the risks. Now imagine repeating the error in Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Hiroshima and Fukuoka in the west, Yokohama to the south, Sapporo to the north and every medium-sized city in between. Imagine, too, Abe's government promoting a "Go To Travel" program encouraging domestic travel with public subsidies. This was supposed to be the year Japan welcomed a record 40 million foreign visitors, thanks largely to the Tokyo Olympics that should be unfolding at this very moment. The Games were postponed, and Japan's airports are eerily quiet.

The real problem, though, was the Abe government's decision to ignore Shigeru Omi. Omi, head of a government panel of experts advising Abe's team, said the domestic tourism push was dangerous and should be scrapped. He was overruled, demonstrating once again that the Nikkei Stock Average has priority over public safety.

Japan's almost linear focus on the economy explains the about-face from global success story to cautionary tale. Just two months ago, the "Japan model" was getting quite a run in the global media. Its mix of limited testing, soft lockdowns and tolerance of businesses staying open seemed worthy of study. Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso even mused about the cultural "superiority" of the Japanese people.

That fostered complacency. By June, restaurants and bars were back to normal, while large events such as sumo wrestling and baseball restarted. Having reopened once, Abe's government seems reluctant to declare another state of emergency—even though more than 60% of Japanese people want one.

Abe's stubbornness suggests this is more about his legacy than the good of the nation. For Japanese leaders, an approval rating in the low 30s means the end is near. Lame-duck chatter concerning Abe is everywhere in Nagatacho, Tokyo's answer to Capitol Hill.

The irony is that the more Abe resists getting a firm grip on the virus, the more the economy — and his support — will suffer anyway. In recent months, his government announced \$2 trillion of stimulus spending, equivalent to 40% of gross domestic product. And yet economists expect GDP to have cratered more than 20% in the Arrii-June quarter.

Things might get worse as Trump ramps up his China trade war. Threats to ban the Chinese-owned TikTok and WeChat appe signal quite the escalation. His move to sanction 11 mainland officials and their allies in Hong Kong, including Chief Executive Carrie Lam, will precipitate a tit-fortat arms race that puts Asia's supply chains and export markets in danger.

Domestic risks abound, too. Japan's annual Obon holiday begins Thursday. It's a multiday travel extravaganza that typically has millions returning to hometowns for reunions with elderly relatives. Health officials fear it will be a super-spreader disaster.

Thankfully, there are scattered signs of leadership. Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike is way ahead of Abe in threatening another emergency declaration. Okinawa, home to a critical mass of U.S. troops, has already done just that. Osaka is gradually adding new restrictions for restaurants and bars.

But the prime minister has been AWOL at a moment when bold national leadership has rarely been needed more. You'd think Abe would've learned from Trump by now that denial won't reverse Japan's second wave. For now, you'd be wrong.

William Pesek is a Tokyo-based writer and author of "Japanization: What the World Can Learn from Japan's Lost Decades."

SCOREBOARD/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net



Pro soccer

IVILO							
EASTERN	4 CC	NFI	ERE	NCE			
	W	L	т	Pts	GF	G/	
Columbus	4	0	1	13	9		
Toronto FC	2	0	3	9	9		
Orlando City	2 2 2 2	1	2	8	7		
Philadelphia	2	1	2	8	7		
Montreal	2	2	1	7	8		
New York	2	2	1	7	5 4 6		
Atlanta	2	3	0	6	4		
Cincinnati	2	3	0	6	6		
New England	1	1	3	6	4		
D.C. United	1	2	2	5	6 4 2		
Chicago	1	3	1	4	4		
New York City FC	1	4	0	3	2		
Nashville SC	0	2	0	ō	1		
Inter Miami CF	0	5	0	0	3		
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	W	L	т	Pts	GF	G/	
Sporting KC	4	1	0	12	13		

Sporting KC 4
Minnesota United 3
Portland 3
Los Angeles FC 2
Seattle 2

Nashville at FC Dailas 3 me Nashville at FC Dailas game Nashville at FC Dailas Nashville at FC Dailas Nashville at FC Dailas Color C

Tennis

Prague Open

Tuesday At TK Sparta Praha Prague Purse: \$225,500 Surface: Red clay Women's Singles Round of 32

Round of 32 Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, def. An-astasija Sevastova (9), Latvia, 6-2, 6-2. Petra Martic (2), Croatia, def. Varvara Gracheva, Russia, 7-6 (2), 6-3. Elise Mertens (3), Belgim, def. Jas-mine Paolini, Italy, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. Arantxa Rus, Netherlands, def. Anas-tasia Pavlyuchenkova (6), Russia, 7-5, 6-2.

6-2.

Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic, def. Patricia Maria Tig, Romania, 6-4, 6-3.

Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, def. Ekaterina Alexandria, def. Politica Maria Mar

Kostyuk, Ukraine, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (4). Magdalena Frech, Poland, (def. Elena-Gabriela Nuse, Romania, 7-6 (8), 6-3. Raluca-loana Ollaru and Monica Niculescu (4). Romania, def. Elixane Norway, 1-6, 6-3, 12-10. Lucie Hradecka and Karolina Piliskova (2), Czech Republic, def. Tayisiya Mor-dica, and Morderger, Germany, 6-6, 8-3, 12-10.

derger and Yana Morderger, Germany, 6-1, 6-3. Renata Voracova, Czech Republic, and Cornelia Lister, Sweden, vs. Darja Vidma-nova and Linda Fruhvirtova, Czech Re-public, 7-5, 6-2.

AP sportlight

Aug. 12

Aug. 13

Aug. 14

Aug

Deals

Monday's transactions

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Placed RHP
rge Lopez on the 10-day IL.
BOSTON RED SOX — Released LHP

Brian Johnson.

DETROIT TIGERS — Placed RHP Buck
Farmer on the 10-day IL. Recalled RHP
Beau Burrows from alternate training

Beau Burrows from alternate training site.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Transferred CF Franchy Cordero from the 10-day IL to the 60-day IL. Optioned RHP Chance Adams to alternate training site.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Designated RHP Jose Rodriguez for assignment. Optioned LHP Jose Suarez to alternate

ining site.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Sent CF Aaron hitefield outright to alternate training

Whiteners outsign to an armonic state of the Month of the Lail off waivers from Chicago White Sox Designated INF Patrick Wisdom for as

alternate training site. Floods II.
Son Bumgarner on the 10-day II.
ATLANTA BRAVES — Optioned RHP
Chad Sobotka to alternate training site.
CINCINNATI REDS — Traded LHP
Brooks Raley to Houston for a player to

Brooks Raley to Houston for a player to USA MAGELES PODGERS – Placed RHP Joe Kelly on the 10-day II. retroactive to OSA MAGELES PODGERS – Placed RHP Joe Kelly on the 10-day II. retroactive to Mageles Placed RHP March 10-day II. Designated List Units from the 10-day II. Designated III. USA MAGELES PLACED RHP MARCH 10-day 10 was optioned to alternate training site.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

National Basketball Association
NBA — Named Victor Williams CEO of
NBA Africa.
POOTBALL
National Football League
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Waived FB

BALTIMORE RAVENS — Walves IBronson Rechsteiner.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed G Jovahn Fair. Walved CB Jameson Houston.
GREEN BAY PACKES — Claimed WR
TRAVIS Fulgham off Walvers from Detroit.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Activated CB
Gareon Conley from the PUP list.
NDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed DT
Tavlar Stallworth.

Taylor Stallworth.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Claimed TE Nate Wieting off waivers from Cleveland.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Waived LB
Cam Smith with non-football injury des-

Cam Smith with non-tootoau injury uespenHLADEPIME EAGLES – Re-signed DE Vinny Curry to a one-year contract. SCATTLE SCHAMMEN – WUNGE OE BRITANDE SCHAMMEN – WINGE OE BRITANDE SCHAMMEN – WINGE OE BRITANDE SCHAMMEN – WINGE OE SCHAMMEN – PLACE TO SCHAMMEN – PLACE OVER DE SCHAMMEN – PLACE OVER DE SCHAMMEN – SIGNED REIN NEW JERSEY DEVILS – Signed DE POLY JEST OF THE SCHAMMEN OF THE SCH

Walsh to a three-year, entry-level con

Pro basketball

WNBA At Bradenton, Fla. EASTERN CONFERENCE W L Pct 5 3 6,255 3 4 4,295 2 6 250 6 250 6 1,143 Chicago WESTERN CONFERENCE Pct .875 .571

Monday's games Connecticut 93, Atlanta 82 Connecticut 93, Atlanta 82 Phoenix 91, Dallas 79 Seattle 89, Chicago 71 Luesday's games Las Vegas at Indiana Washington at Minnesota New York at Los Angeles Wednesday's games Dallas at Connecticut Phoenix at Chicago Atlanta at Seattle

Coaches push for college football as cracks emerge

By RALPH D. RUSSO Associated Press

President Donald Trump on Monday joined a U.S. senator and a number of coaches calling to save the college football season from a pandemic-forced shutdown as supporters pushed the premise that the players are safer because of their sport.

There was speculation two of the five most powerful conferences - the Big Ten and the Pac-12 - might call off their seasons and explore the possibility of spring

The Mountain West became the second conference in the NCAA's Football Bowl Subdivison to do just that, joining the Mid-American Conference in giving up hope on playing any sports in the first semester. Back east, Old Dominion canceled fall sports. too, becoming the first school in college football's highest tier to break from its league; the rest of Conference USA is going forward with plans to play.

On Tuesday, Massachusetts canceled its fall football season. UMass is an independent in football and its decision affects

only that sport. Most of UMass' athletic teams compete in the Atlantic 10.

A Big Ten spokesman said no votes on fall sports had been taken by its presidents and chancellors as of Monday afternoon. The conference's athletic directors were scheduled to meet later in the day, but it's the university presidents who will have the final say on whether football is played. In the Pac-12, presidents were scheduled to meet Tuesday, a person familiar with the meeting told AP on the condition of anonymity because the meeting was

The powerful Southeastern Conference made clear it was not ready to shutter its fall season.

not being made public.

"Best advice I've received since COVID-19: 'Be patient. Take time when making decisions. This is all new & you'll gain



Southeastern Conference Commissioner Greg Sankey says his league isn't ready to throw in the towel yet on the upcoming football season, advising patience and time before making the decision.

better information each day." SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey posted on Twitter, "Can we play? I don't know. We haven't stopped

A growing number of athletes have spoken out about saving the season, with Clemson star quar-terback Trevor Lawrence among a group posting to Twitter with the hashtag #WeWantToPlay. Trump threw his support behind them Monday.

"The student-athletes have been working too hard for their season to be cancelled," the president tweeted.

That didn't help the Mountain West, which announced all fall sports, including football, were postponed. Air Force, though, would be permitted the opportunity to play the other service academies, Army and Navy.

Old Dominion dropped out earlier in the day. The Virginia school, a relative newcomer to major college football, canceled fall sports less than a week after C-USA set out a plan to play a football season

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh took a different stand, saying the Wolverines have shown that players can be safe after they return to school. He cited Michigan's COVID-19 testing stats, including 11 positives out of 893 administered to the members of the football program and none in the last 353 tests.

Nebraska coach Scott Frost made similar claims and said if the Big Ten doesn't play, that might not stop the Cornhuskers.

"Our university is committed to playing no matter what, no matter what that looks like and how that looks," Frost said. "We want to play no matter who it is or where it is."

Sen. Ben Sasse, a Nebraska Republican, picked up on the saferwith-football theme in a letter to the presidents and chancellors of the Big Ten

"Life is about tradeoffs. There are no guarantees that college football will be completely safe - that's absolutely true; it's always true," he wrote. "But the structure and discipline of football programs is very likely safer than what the lived experience of 18- to 22-year-olds will be if there isn't a season "

Waiting: Army trying to find opponents

FROM BACK PAGE

The Black Knights' biggest challenge might be finding opponents. Their only confirmed home game is Nov. 7 against Air Force. The other five scheduled visitors have canceled. Whatever their take on the situ-

ation, coaches at the top levels of college football are facing the distraction challenges. Louisville coach Scott Satterfield refers to it as "the elephant in the room."

The issue was highlighted Saturday when the Mid-American Conference became the first Football Bowl Subdivision league to cancel its fall season. Monday night saw the Mountain West Conference also cancel its fall sports.

Connecticut, Massachusetts and Old Dominion have also canceled, bringing to 15 the number of schools at the top level to forgo the fall, along with numerous conferences one step down in the Football Championship Subdivision.

"What we understand is that the ACC is moving forward," Satterfield said Monday. "And we're relying on our medical group that's over the ACC and what they are projecting to us is that we're moving forward with everything. And so that's where we are today. "We know how things change and how fluid it is. But that's what

we are." Brown, at West Virginia, hopes

teams will be competing soon.

"I think we can make it work in the fall. I think it's doable." he said. "I think we can do it in a safe manner. I think the biggest question is — and this is something that people aren't talking about what's the plan if we don't play?"

AP sports writers John Kekis in New York, Gary Graves in Kentucky, and John Raby in West Virginia contributed.

NBA

Scoreboard

Factorn Conference

Lastern Conference									
Atlantic Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB					
x-Toronto	51	19	.729	-					
x-Boston	47	23	.671	4					
x-Philadelphia	42	28	.600	9					
x-Brooklyn	34	36	.486	17					
New York	21	45	.318	28					
Southeast	Divis	ion							
x-Miami	44	27	.620	-					
x-Orlando	32	39	.451	12					
Charlotte	23	42	.354	18					
Washington	24	46	.343	19%					
Atlanta	20	47	.299	22					
Central D	ivisio	on							
z-Milwaukee	55	16	.775	-					
x-Indiana	43	28	.606	12					
Chicago	22	43	.338	30					
Detroit	20	46	.303	321/2					
Cleveland	19	46	.292	33					

Western Conference

	W	L	Pct	GB
v-Houston	44	25	.638	_
x-Dallas	43	30	.589	3
Memphis	33	38	.465	12
San Antonio	31	38	.449	13
New Orleans	30	40	.429	141/2
Northwest		ion		
x-Denver	46	25	.648	-
x-Oklahoma City	43	27	.614	21/2
x-Utah	43	28	.606	3
Portland	33	39	.458	131/2
Minnesota	19	45	.297	231/2
Pacific Di	ivisio			
z-L.A. Lakers	52	18	.743	-
x-L.A. Clippers	47	23	.671	5
Phoenix	32	39	.451	201/2
Sacramento	29	41	.414	23
Golden State	15	50	.231	341/2
x-clinched playoff spot	t			
y-clinched division				
Golden State x-clinched playoff spot	15	41 50	.414 .231	23 34½

y-clinched division
z-clinched conference
Sunday's games
Oklahoma City 121, Washington 103
Toronto 108, Memphis 99
San Antonio 122, New Orleans 113
Boston 122, Otalon 119, OT
Portland 124, Philadelphia 121
Boston 129, LA

Monday's games
Phoenix 128, Oklahoma City 101
Dallas 122, Utah 114
Toronto 114, Milwaukee 106 Toronto 114, Milwaukee 106 Miami 114, Indiana 92 L.A. Lakers 124, Denver 121 Tuesday's games

Brooklyn at Orlando
Househan at Orlando
Househan at San Antonio
Househan at San Antonio
Househan at San Antonio
Boston at Memphis
Boston at Memphis
Portland at Dallas
Milwaukee at Washington
New Orleans at Sacramento
Wednesday's games

Wednesday's ganie: Indiana at Houston Toronto at Philadelphia Miami at Oklahoma City L.A. Clippers at Denver Thursday's games Washington at Boston Sacramento at L.A. Lakers

Dallas at Phoenix Milwaukee at Memphis San Antonio at Utah New Orleans at Orlando Portland at Brooklyn

Monday Lakers 124, Nuggets 121

DENVER — Millsap 5-7.2-13, Porter Jr. 6-6-0-0 15, Jokic 4-7 2-2 12, Craig 3-8-0-0 6, Murray 6-10 2-2 14, Bates-Dipp 4-8-1-2-10, 501 2-5 3-4-8, Dozier 5-7-6-7-18, Plumlee 5-8-1-2-11, Mo.Morris 5-11-1-2-14. Totals 45-77 18-23 121.

5-8 12-11, Mo.Morris 5-11-12-14, Totals 4-7718-32-12-7 Junes - 57-718-32-12-7 Junes - 57-718-32-12-7 Junes - 57-718-32-7 Junes

Heat 114. Pacers 92

INDIANA — A.Holiday 3-8 1-2 8, Warren 5-14 0-0 12, Turner 3-7 2-4 9, Brogdon 4-12 4-5 12, Oladipo 4-9 3-3 14, Bitadze 1-2 0-0 2, Johnson 1-3 0-0 3, McDermott 4-11 0-0 9, Sampson 1-2 2-2 4, J.Holiday 2-8 2-2 7, McConnell 3-4 1-2 7, Sumner 2-4 1-5 5.

7, McConneil 3-8 1-2 7, Sumner 2-4 1-5 5. Totals 33-84 16-25 92. MIAMI — Butler 5-13 9-11 19, Crowder 58 0-014, Adebayo 4-10 2-4 10, Dragic 5-16 0-1 11, Robinson 5-11 0-0 14, Olynyk 3-11 2-3 8, Iguodala 0-4 0-0, Jones Jr. 9-11 0-0 18, Herro 7-11 0-0 17, Vincent 1-3 0-0 3. Totals 44-98 131-9 114.

Otats 44-98 13-19 114. Indiana 19 29 23 21-92 Miami 23 25 37 29-114 Miami 2 2 25 37 29-114
Three-Point Colladjo 3-5, Warren 2-6, Johnson 1-2,
Colladjo 3-5, Warren 2-6, Johnson 1-2,
Colladjo 3-5, Warren 2-6, Johnson 1-2,
Conder 4-6, Bobinson 4-10, Herro 3-6,
Cfcrowder 4-6, Robinson 4-10, Herro 3-6,
Cfcrowder 4-10, Herro 3-6,
Cfc

Raptors 114, Bucks 106

Naptors 114, BilCKs 106
TORONTO – Anunoby 2-63 47, Siakam
5-16 3-4 14, Gasol 0-5 0-0 0, Davis 5-8 80-0
10, Powell 7-13 5-21, Hollis-Fefferson 4-9
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 22
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 22
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 22
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 22
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 20
25, Johnson 0-40 -2 0, Thomas 9-17 0-0 20
26, Brown 0-1 0-0 0, Ilyasova 2-7 5-6 9, Ko-0
27, 22, RLopez 0-2 1-41, DiVincenzo 2-9
2-9, RLo

36 31 21 26-114 31 22 22 31-106 Milwaukee 131 ZZ 31-106
Three-Point Gols-Toronto 12-40
(Fowell 4-5, Thomas 4-8, Boucher 3-6,
Fowell 4-5, Thomas 4-8, Boucher 3-6,
Fowell 4-5, Thomas 4-8, Boucher 3-6,
Fowell 4-8, Connaughton 5-6, Williams 1-2, Bledsoe 1-3, B.Lopez 1-5, Middleton 0-2, DiVincenzo 0-3, Ilyasova 0-3, Wilson 0-3), Fouled Out-Toronto 1 0-3, Wilson 0-3). Fouled Out—Toronto 1 (Davis), Milwaukee None. Rebounds— Toronto 55 (Boucher 11), Milwaukee 49 (DiVincenzo 9). Assists—Toronto 24 (Ga-sol 8), Milwaukee 25 (Bledsoe 8). Total Fouls—Toronto 27, Milwaukee 21.

Mavericks 122, Jazz 114

Suns 128, Thunder 101

OKLAHOMA CITY - Bazley 8-16 4-5 22

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bazley St. 16.4 5.22.
Ander G-9 1-1 IS, Muscala 4-6 0-11, Dort 2-8 3-38, Paul 3-9, 7-7 14, Burton 0-5-22.
Ander G-9 1-1 IS, Muscala 4-6 0-11, Dort 2-8 3-8, Paul 3-9, 7-7 14, Burton 0-5-22.
Ander G-9 1-1 IS, Paul 3-9, Pau

Okiahoma City 37 27 17 20-m3 39-128 Phoenix Andrews An

				PTS	
Harden, HOU	61	603	619	2096	34.4
Beal, WAS					
Antetokounmpo, MIL					
Young, ATL				1778	
Lillard, POR	58	531	389	1677	28.9
Doncic, DAL	54	512	369	1549	28.7
Westbrook, HOU	53	568	269	1456	27.5
Leonard, LAC Davis, LAL	51	4/6	311	13/0	26.9
Booker, PHX	62			1619	
James, LAL LaVine, CHI	60	586	239	1544	25.7
LaVine, CHI	60	539	268	1530	25.5
Ingram, NOP	56	469	283	1358	24.3
Mitchell, UTA					
Siakam, TOR	53	459	220	1253	23.6
Tatum, BOS	59	499	225	1390	23.6
McCollum, POR					
DeRozan, SAS				1352	
Wiggins, GSW	54	437	190	1175	21.8
Walker, BOS	50	350	195	1060	21.2

Rebounds								
	G OFF DEF TOTAVG							
Drummond, CLE	57 250 614 864 15.2							
Whiteside, POR	61 244 625 869 14.2							
Antetokounmpo, MIL	57 130 653 783 13.7							
Gobert, UTA	62 211 639 850 13.7							
Sabonis, IND	62 189 582 771 12.4							
Valanciunas, MEM	62 190 506 696 11.2							
Vucevic. ORL	54 130 466 596 11.0							
Adebayo, MIA	65 165 518 683 10.5							
Jokic, ĎEN	65 155 508 663 10.2							
Thompson CLE	57 226 351 577 10 1							

Inompson, CLE	5/	226 351	5// 10.1
	Assist	5	
	G	AST	AVG
James, LAL	60	636	10.6
Young, ATL	60	560	9.3
Rubio, PHX	57	507	8.9
Doncic, DAL	54	470	8.7
Simmons, PHI	54	442	8.2
Lillard, POR	58	453	7.8
Lowry, TOR	52	399	7.7
Graham, CHA	63	471	7.5
Harden, HOU	61	450	7.4



Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker, left, tries to shoot past Oklahoma City Thunder forward Abdel Nader, center. Booker had 35 points in the Suns' 128-101 win Monday in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Roundup

Suns run to 6-0 in restart

Booker scores 35 to lead Phoenix past undermanned Oklahoma City

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. - Devin Booker scored 35 points. and the Phoenix Suns rolled past the short-handed Oklahoma City Thunder 128-101 on Monday to improve to 6-0 in the restart and improve their playoff chances.

The Suns have surged in the Western Conference standings. They entered the day just 11/2 games behind eighth-place Memphis and a game behind ninth-place Portland in the race to qualify for a spot in the play-in series.

"We haven't accomplished anything," Phoenix coach Monty Williams said. "That may sound like coach-speak, but we dug ourselves a hole with our record. We scrapped all year long and won some games, but it's been an uphill battle."

Williams appreciates the position the Suns are in.

"We've done a good job of getting to this point," he said. "No one knew we were going to be here, but we're here and we're thankful for that."

Phoenix center Deandre Ayton sat out the first quarter because he missed his coronavirus test on Sunday. He tested negative on Monday and was cleared. He started the second quarter.

"In an NBA season guys are going to make mistakes,' liams said. "You have to be able to give people grace. It wasn't intentional. Thankfully he was able to get tested early enough that he was able to come back and play, and the guvs received him with onen arms because we all understand we're human."

With Ayton out, Oklahoma City led 37-23 at the end of the first quarter. After Ayton entered the rest of the way. He finished with 10 points and six rebounds in just over 17 minutes

The Thunder were without four of their top five scorers. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (bruised right calf), Danilo Gallinari (left ankle maintenance), Dennis Schroder (birth of child) and Steven Adams (bruised left leg) sat out. Reserve center Nerlens Noel (sprained right ankle) also did not play.

Lakers 124, Nuggets 121: Kyle Kuzma hit a three-pointer with .4 seconds left and Los Angeles beat Denver to snap a threegame losing streak.

LeBron James threw an inbounds pass to Anthony Davis, who flipped it to Kuzma on the right wing for the game-winner as the clock ran down

The Lakers, outplayed down the stretch by the Nuggets' bench, got 29 points and 12 assists from James, who hit two three-pointers in the fourth quarter. Anthony Davis had 27 points and Kuzma

P.J. Dozier had a chance to put Denver up by one with 4.4 seconds left but missed the second of two free throws. Kuzma rebounded and Los Angeles called timeout to set up the winning play.

Raptors 114, Bucks 106: Chris Boucher scored a careerhigh 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to help Toronto defeat Milwaukee.

Though the meeting featured the top two teams in the Eastern Conference standings, both teams were missing key players.

The Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo, the reigning MVP, missed the game after under-going oral surgery. Milwaukee coach Mike Budehnolzer said Monday it was uncertain whether Antetokounmpo would play in the team's final two seeding games Tuesday against the Washington Wizards and Thursday against the Memphis Grizzlies.

For the Raptors, Kyle Lowry sat out with a sore lower back. Serge Ibaka missed the game with a bruised right knee and Fred Van Vleet was out with a hyperextended right knee.

Heat 114, Pacers 92: Jimmy Butler returned from a foot injury and scored 19 points, Derrick Jones scored 18 off the Miami bench and Miami kept T.J. Warren largely in check on the way to a win over Indiana.

Tyler Herro scored 17 while Duncan Robinson and Jae Crowder each added 14 for the Heat, who snapped a two-game slide. They took control for good in the third quarter, blowing open what was a tie game with a 35-17 run. Goran Dragic scored 11 and Bam Adebayo added 10 for Miami.

Mavericks 122, Jazz 114: Short-handed Dallas rallied from a 22-point deficit in the second half to stun Utah.

Tim Hardaway Jr. led the Mav-ericks with 27 points and Seth Curry added 22. Boban Majanovic had 20 points and nine rebounds. It was the biggest comeback for Dallas since February 2016 and the win means the Mays still have a slim shot at earning the No. 5 seed in the Western Conference playoffs.

Dallas won despite playing without stars Luka Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis, who were both resting because of nagging injuries.

Utah was led by Jordan Clark-son, who scored 18 points. Rayjon Tucker scored 17 points off the

MIB

Trout's 2 HRs rally Angels

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By JOE REEDY Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. - Mike Trout is beginning to believe there might be something to the notion of having added power after the birth of a child.

The reigning AL MVP has certainly been on a tear since son Beckham was born. Trout homered twice Monday night, including a tiebreaking shot in the eighth inning, as the Los Angeles Angels rallied from an early fiverun deficit for a 10-9 victory that snapped the Oakland Athletics' nine-game winning streak.

"People ask me about this Dad power. I guess it is a thing," Trout said. "There's nothing like being a Dad.'

With three hits in the series opener, Trout is 11-for-30 with six home runs and 11 RBIs in the past seven games. He rejoined the team in Seattle on Aug. 4 after his wife, Jessica, gave birth to Beckham on July 30.

"I am a little more relaxed. Leading up to it I was extremely worried about the coronavirus. Trout said, "I didn't want to have it and come home. But we have been keeping it safe in the Trouthold and everyone in the organization has been doing a good job."

Anthony Rendon and Shohei Ohtani also homered for the Angels.

Trout's solo drive off Yusmeiro Petit (1-1) in the eighth helped Los Angeles stop a three-game skid. It was the 20th multihomer game of Trout's career, which tied Tim Salmon and Vladimir Guerrero for the franchise record.

'We had a rough weekend. We weren't doing our jobs when we had our chances," Trout said. "But this is a new homestand and we got a huge win against an Oakland team that was coming in hot.'

Los Angeles trailed 9-4 in the fourth before Trout began the rally with a two-run drive into the Angels' bullpen in left field. Ohtani had an RBI double in the inning to bring them to 9-7 and then tied it with a two-run homer to center in the sixth

It was Ohtani's 44th career home run, which tied Tadahito Iguchi for fourth in the majors by a Japanese-born player.

The Angels' bullpen, which has struggled this season, allowed only two hits over the final five

innings.

Noe Ramirez, Keynan Mid-dleton, Felix Pena (1-0) and Tv Buttrey held Oakland scoreless. Buttrey earned his second save.

"They struggled early in the season, but hopefully the issue has resolved itself," manager Joe Maddon said. "Normally it takes a month to get a bullpen in order and we are trying to do it more

Scoreboard

_									
American League									
East Division									
New York Tampa Bay Baltimore Toronto Boston	10 9 7 5	6 8 7 8 10	.625 .529 .500 .385 .375	GB - 1½ 2 3½ 4					
	itral Div								
Minnesota Detroit	11 9	6	.647	1/2					
Cleveland	10	7	.588	1					
Chicago	8	9	.471	3					
Kansas City	7 est Divi	10	.412	4					
Oakland W	est Divi	sion 5	.706	_					
Houston	7	9	.438	41/2					
Texas Seattle Los Angeles	6 7 6	9 11 11	.400 .389 .353	5 ½ 6					

National League									
East Division									
W L Pct GB									
Miami	7	3	.700	_					
Atlanta	11	7 6	.611	_					
Philadelphia Washington New York	5	6	.455	21/2					
Washington	5	7	.417	3					
New York	7	10	.412	31/2					
Cent	ral Di	vision							
Chicago	10	3 9	.769	_					
St. Louis Cincinnati Milwaukee	2 7	3	.400	4					
Cincinnati	7	9	.438	41/2					
Milwaukee	6	8	.429	41/2					
Pittsburah	3	13	.188	81/2					
Wes	t Divi	ision							
Colorado	11	5	.688	_					
Los Angeles	11	6	.647	1/2					
San Diego	10	7	.588	11/2					
Arizona	7	10	.412	41/2					
San Francisco	7	11	.389	5					

rizona 7 10 48
m Fancisco 4
m Fancisco 7

Minnesotta at Milwaukee Seattle at Texas San Francisco at Houston Oakland at L.A. Angels Washington at N.Y. Mets Washington at N.Y. Mets Arizona at Colorado San Diego at L.A. Dodgers Chicago White Sox (Cease 2-1) at De-troll (Boyd 0-1) seith John at L.A. Angels

(Pearson 0-0)
Kansas City (Keller 1-0) at Cincinnati
(Miley 0-1)
Atlanta (Wright 0-2) at N.Y. Yankees
(Tanaka 0-0)
Baltimore (LeBlanc 1-0) at Philadelphia (Efiin 0-0)
Minnesota (Maeda 2-0) at Milwaukee

(Lauer 0-1)
San Francisco (TBD) at Houston (Greinke 0-0)
Tampa Bay (Snell 0-0) at Boston (TBD)
Seattle (Walker 1-2) at Texas (Lyles 1-1)

1-1)
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, ppd.
Arizona (Weaver 0-3) at Colorado
(Senzatela 3-0)
Washington (Sanchez 0-2) at N.Y. Mets
(TBD) San Diego (Davies 2-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Urias 1-0)

Monday Astros 6, Giants 4

an Francisc					Houston				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
strzmski cf	3	1	0	0	Altuve 2b	5	1	1	0
ickerson If	4	1	1	0	Reddick rl				
olano 3b		1		ī	Bregman :				
elt 1b	4	0	0	0	Brantley o	lh 4	1	1	2
lores dh	4	0	0	0	Gurriel 1b	3	1	1	0
rawford ss	4	0	ĭ	2	Correa ss	3	0	1	2
	3	1	2	1	Tucker If	- 4	0	0	0
romp c	3	0	0	0	Maldnado				
ongoria ph	1	0	0	0	Straw cf	4	0	0	0
ubon 2b				0					
	33		6	4	Totals	32	6	7	5
an Franci	SC	•			000 000	0 (01	3-	-4
louston					014 00				
E-Trom	p	(1).	Sol	ano 2 (5)	. DF	>_	٠Sa	an
					1 0. LOB-				
					3-Solano				
iel (5), Br	an	tle	У	(6),	Bregman	(6)	U B	НR	_
later (3), I	Ma	ld	òη	ado	(1). SB-1	Fuck	æ	1 (3	3),

	IP	Н	R	ER	BB	SO	
San Francisco							
Webb L,1-1 Menez	31/3 23/3	4	5	2	0	2	
Barcia Selman	1	0	0	0	0	1	
louston							
McCullers Jr. W,2-1	7	1	0	0	0	5	
ames	1	3	4	4	1	1	
Procely S 1.2							

James pitched to 3 batters in the 9th. HBP-McCullers Jr. (Slater), Menez (Gur riel). WP-Webb. T-3:07.



The Angels' Anthony Rendon, right, celebrates his two-run home run with Mike Trout during the first inning on Monday against Oakland.

Nationals 16, Mets 4

ashington					New York	
-	ab	r	h	bi	ab r hbi	
rner ss		2	3	3	Rosario ss 5 0 0 0	
fo ss	1	0	0	0	Davis 3b 2 2 0 0	
rison rf-lf	5	0	1	1	McNeil If 4 1 3 0	
stro 2b		2	0	0	Alonso 1b 4 0 1 1	
to If	4	3	3	3	Conforto rf 3 0 1 1	
ylor rf	2	1	1	0	Hamilton cf 1 0 0 0	
ndrick dh		2	1	1	Ramos c 2 0 1 0	
brera 1b	4	3	4	5	A.Snchez c 1 0 0 0	
eboom 3b	5	ī	1		Nmmo cf-rf 4 1 1 1	
mes c	4	2	2	2	Dozier dh 4 0 1 0	
bles cf	4	0	1	1	Gimenez 2b 4 0 0 0	
	44	16	17	16	Totals 34 4 8 3	
ashingto	n				014 072 200-16	
w York					000 002 011-4	
E-Corb	in	11	١ ١	-מר	-Washington 2 New	

Tu Di Hr Ca So Ta Ke Ca Ki Go Ro W E—Corbin (1). DP—Washington 2, New York 0. LOB—Washington 6, New York 6. 2B—Cabrera 2 (5), Soto (3), Taylor (1), MCNeil (4), Ramos (2). HR—Cabrera 2 (3), Turner (2), Soto (2), Nimmo (2). SF—Har-rison (2).

	IP	Н	R	ER	BB	SO	
Washington							
Corbin, W, 2-0	6	5	2	1	2	4	
Suero	2	2	1	1	0		
Doolittle	1	1	1	1	0	0	
New York							
Matz, L, 0-3	41/3	8	8	8	0	5	
Sewald	3/3	6	6	6	2	0	
Shreve	2	3	2	2	1	2	
Dr.Smith	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Guillorme	1	0	0	0	0	0	
HBP-Sewald (Robl	es),	Sue	ro (Dav	is).	
WP-Matz. T-2:5	9.						

Tigers 5, White Sox 1

	ab	r	h	bi	ab r hbi	
L.Garcia ss	4	0	1	0	Goodrum ss 4 2 4 1	
Goins 2b	1	0	0	0	Schoop 2b 4 0 0 0	
Moncada 3b		0	1	0	Cabrera dh 2 0 0 0	
Grandal dh	3	0	0	0	Cron 1b 1 0 0 0	
Abreu 1b	4	0	1	0	Lugo ph-3b 3 0 0 0	
Collins 1b		0	0	0	Cndlro 3b-1b 4 1 2 1	
E.Jimenez If		0	1	0	Reyes If 3 0 1 1	
Mazara rf	3	0	0	0	Dmeritte rf 2 0 0 0	
Robert ph-c	f 1	0	0	0	Cstro ph-rf 1 1 1 0	
McCann c	4	0	1	0	Romine c 3 0 0 0	
Mndk 2b-ss	4		3	0	Jones cf 3 1 1 2	
Engel cf-rf	4	0	0	1		
Totals	36	1	8	1	Totals 30 5 9 5	
Chicago					000 000 100-1	

E-Schoop (2). DP-Chicago 2, Detroit 0. LOB-Chicago 9, Detroit 3. 2B-Candelario (1). 3B-Mendick (1), Candelario (2). HR-Goodrum (3), Jones (5).

nicago						
euchel, L, 2-2	6	6	3	3	2	4
euer	1	3	2	2	0	1
shek	1	0	0	0	0	1
etroit						
.Fulmer	3	3	0	0	1	2
orris, W. 1-1	2	1	0	0	0	2
chreiber, H. 1	1	1	0	0	0	1
snero, H, 3	3/3	2	1	1	0	0
oto, H, 3	11/3	0	0	0	0	1
arcia	1	1	0	0	0	0
Keuchel pitch	ed to 2	bat bat	ters	in t	he 7	th.
-2.47						

Twins 4, Brewers 2

Minnesota					Milwaukee		
	ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h bi
Kepler rf	5	0	1	0	Soard 3b-2b 3	0	0 0
Polanco ss		1	1	0		1	2 1
Cruz dh	3	1	0	0	Yelich If 4	0	1 0
Rosario If	4	î	ĭ	4	Smoak 1b 4	0	0 0
Gonzalez 1b	4	0	0	0	Garcia cf 4	0	1 0
Arraez 2b	4	0	1	0	Gamel rf 3		0 0
Adrianza 3b	4	0	2	0	Gyorko ph 1	0	0 0
Buxton cf	4	0	0	0	Urias 2b-ss 4	ĭ	1 0
Avila c	2	1	1	0	Narvaez c 3	0	1 0
					Pina ph 1	0	1 0
					Arciass 2	0	1 1
							0 0
			_		Mathias ph 1	0	0 0
	34	4	7	4			8 2
Minnesota							0-4
Milwaukee							0-2
E-Urias	(1).	Ŀ	υŖ	-Minnesota	ь,	Mil-
waukee /.	21	3-	A	CIS	(2), Pina (1)	. 1	4R-
Rosario (4)	, н	lıu	ra	(4)			

Dobnak, W, 3-1 May, H, 3 Duffey, H, 5 Romo, H, 4 Rogers, S, 4-5 Milwaukos Houser, L. 1-1

Phillies 13, Braves 8

tlanta					Philadelphia
	ab	r	h	bi	ab r h bi
cuna Jr. cf	2	0	0	0	Gsslin dh-2b 4 2 2 0
nciarte cf	2	1	1	0	Hoskins 1b 3 2 1 0
wanson ss	2	0	0	0	Knapp c 1 0 1 0
echvrria s					Harperrf 3 3 2 3
reeman 1b					Haseley rf 1 0 0 0
ulberson 1				1	Realmto c-1b 5 2 2 3
zuna dh	3	0	0	1	Grgorius ss 4 1 1 4
'Arnaud c	4	2	2	2	Walker 3b 1 0 0 0
larkakis rf		1	1	1	Segra 3b-ss 3 1 1 1
uvall If		0	0	0	Kelleyp 0000
iley 3b		1		2	
amargo 2b	4	1	1	1	Kngry 2b-ss 4 1 1 0
					Quinn cf 4 1 3 1
ntale	24	8	9	8	Totals 3813 1412

	IP	н	R	ER	BB	50	
Atlanta							
Newcomb L,0-2	11/3	6	8	8	2	1	
Erlin	23/3	4	4	4	0	5	
Dayton	2	3	1	0	2	3	
	1	1	0			0	
Minter	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Philadelphia							
Nola W.1-1	8	2	1	1	1	10	
Pivetta	1/3	6	6	6	0	0	
Kelley	3/3	1	1	1	0	1	
HBP—Newcomb	b (Ha	rpe	r). V	VP-	Kel	ley.	
Nola W,1-1	1 8 1/3 2/3 b (Ha	2 6 1 irpei	0 0 1 6 1 r). V	ĭ		0	

Angels 10 Athletics 9

Oakland					Los Angeles
	ab	r	h	bi	ab r h bi
Semien ss	4	0	0	0	Fletcher ss 4 1 1 0
Laureano ci	f 3	1	0	0	La Stella 2b 5 1 2 0
Olson 1b		2	0	0	Rengifo 2b 0 0 0 0
Chapman 3		3	3		Trout cf 5 4 4 3
Canha dh	4		2	0	Rendon 3b 3 3 2 2
Barreto pr	0	0	0	0	Ohtani dh 4 1 2 2
Grossman I		0	1	0	Pujols 1b 4 0 0 1
Piscotty rf	5		1	1	Upton If 3 0 1 1
Pinder 2b	4	0	1	0	Goodwin If 0 0 0 0
Murphy c	4	i	1	0	Stassic 3 0 0 0
					Adell rf 4 0 2 0
Totals	35	9	9	7	Totals 3510 14 9
Oakland _					032 400 000-9
los Angel	20				301 302 01v-10

E-Upton (1). DP-Oakland 2, Los Angeles 3. LOB—Oakland 7, Los Angeles 7. 2B—La Stella (5), Ohtani (3). 3B—Chap-man (2). HR—Chapman 2 (6), Rendon (2), Trout 2 (7), Ohtani (4). SB—Grossman (3).

	IP	н	R	ER	BB	SO.	
Oakland							
Manaea	23/3	7	4	4	3	1	
Wendelken	3/3	2	3	3	2	2	
McFarland H,5	13/3	2	0	0	1	0	
Trivino BS,0-1	2	2	2	2	0	2	
Petit L,1-1	1	1	1	1	0	0	
Los Angeles							
Teheran	2	5	5	5	2	1	
Andriese	2	2	4	5	2	3	
Ramirez	13/3	1	0	0	2	0	
Middleton	11/3	0	0	0	1	ī	
Pena W,1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Buttrey S,2-5	1	1	0	0	0	2	
Teheran pitch	ed to	3	batt				
3rd. HBP-Teher		Can	ha).	W	P-N	1a-	
naga Tohoran T	_3.41						

Padres 2. Dodgers 1

San Diego					Los Angeles
al	b	r	h	bi	ab r h bi
Tatis Ir. ss	4	0	1	0	Pederson If 3 1 0 0
Grisham cf	j	ī	ō	ō	Betts rf 4 0 1 0
	4	0	1	ō	Bellinger cf 4 0 1 1
Pham dh	ź.	ō	ĩ	ō	Turner 3b 4 0 1 0
Hosmer 1h	4	0	1	1	Muncy 2b 4 0 1 0
Myers rf	4	Π	n	ō	Taylor ss 2 0 0 0
	á.	Π	1	0	Taylor ss 2 0 0 0 Beaty dh 3 0 0 0
Hedges c	ź	ī	î	ī	Pollock ph 1 0 0 0
	2		0	0	Rios 1b 3 0 0 0
					Smith c 2 0 0 0
Totals 2	9	2	6	2	Totals 30 1 4 1
San Diego					000 011 000-2
Los Angeles					100 000 000-1
E—Hedge	25	(1).	DP	-San Diego 1, Los
Angeles 2. L	LC	B.	-5	San	Diego 5, Los Ange-
les 6, 2B-M	la	ch	nac	to (3). HR—Hedges (1).
S-Hedges (

San Diego (37,755).

Mariners 10. Rangers 2

Seattle					Texas				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Crawford ss	5	2	2	0	Choo If		1	1	0
Moore rf			3	3	Solak cf	5	1	2	0
Lewis cf	5	2	3	3	Calhoun dh	1 4	0	2	2
Seager 3b		1	2	4	Gallorf	3	0	0	0
Nola c	5	0	1	0	Frazier 1b	3	0	1	0
Long Jr. 2b	3	0	1	0	Rfsnydr 1b	0	0	0	0
White 1b	5	0	1	0	Odor 2b	4	0	1	0
Voglbach dh	5	1	1	0	Knr-Flfa 3b	4	0	0	0
Lopes If	4	1	1	0	Andrus ss	4	0	0	0
					Teieda ss	0	0	0	0
					Chirinos c	3	0	1	0
Totals	41	10	15	10	Totals	34	2	8	2

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Guilbeau	1	0	0	0	1	1
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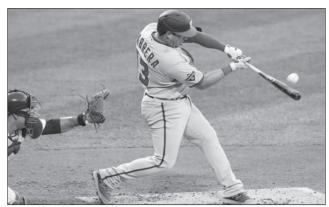
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MLB/SPORTS BRIEFS



The Washington Nationals' Asdrubal Cabrera hits the first of his two home runs Monday in a 16-4 win over the Mets in New York, Cabrera also had two doubles

Roundup

Nats' Cabrera clobbers Mets

Goes 4-for-4 with 2 homers, 5 RBIs in win against his former team

Associated Press

NEW YORK - Asdrubal Cabrera went 4-for-4 with two homers, two doubles and five RBIs, tormenting his former team again as the Washington Nationals routed the New York Mets 16-4 on Monday

Juan Soto and Trea Turner homered in the third inning for the Nationals, who scored just 11 runs in their previous five games. Cabrera, who played in 374 games for the Mets from 2016-18, became the first player to go 4-for-4 with four extra-base hits against a former team since Johnny Cooney of the Brooklyn Dodgers did it versus the Boston Bees in 1937, according to STATS. Cabrera is batting .452 with three homers and 11 RBIs in eight games against New York since Washington signed him last August.

Phillies 13, Braves 8: Didi Gregorius hit a grand slam, Bryce Harper blasted a three-run shot and host Philadelphia got Aaron Nola his first win in nearly a

Nola (1-1) allowed one run, two hits and struck out 10 in eight innings. The ace right-hander was 0-5 in nine starts since his last win at Boston on August 20, 2019.

Padres 2, Dodgers 1: Eric Hosmer singled in the go-ahead run with two outs in the sixth inning, and San Diego won at Los Angeles in the series opener.

Joc Pederson bobbled the ball on Hosmer's hit to left and couldn't attempt a throw as Trent Grisham scored from second.

Astros 6, Giants 4: Lance McCullers Jr. pitched no-hit ball into the seventh inning, Michael Brantley and Carlos Correa drove in two runs each and host Houston snapped a five-game skid.

Rays 8, Red Sox 7: Kevin Kiermaier hit a tiebreaking, tworun double in the seventh inning. Manuel Margot had four hits and Tampa Bay won at Boston.

Kiermaier's opposite-field line drive off reliever Jeffrey Springs (0-1) rolled all the way to the wall in left-center field. Yoshi Tsutsugo and Margot scored after both

singled to start the inning.

Twins 4, Brewers 2: Eddie Rosario hit a grand slam, Randy Dobnak pitched five strong innings and Minnesota won at Milwaukee to end a four-game skid.

Diamondbacks 12, Rockies 8: Kole Calhoun hit a leadoff homer and a two-run double to lead Arizona's 18-hit outburst at Colorado.

Tigers 5, White Sox 1: JaCoby Jones hit an inside-the-park home run and host Detroit breezed past Chicago for its fourth straight victory.

Mariners 10, Rangers 2: Kyle Seager hit a grand slam, Kyle Lewis and Dylan Moore also homered and Seattle won its first game at the new Texas ballnark. snapping its opponent's threegame winning streak.

Briefly

Mets pitcher Stroman will opt out of season

NEW YORK - Marcus Stroman's recovery from a torn left calf muscle was almost complete, and he was in line to possibly make his season debut for the New York Mets next week against the Miami Marlins.

But the idea of traveling to one of the country's coronavirus hot spots played a factor in Stroman's decision Monday to opt out of the 2020 season.

'Obviously, you see the Cardinals, the Marlins, you see spikes everywhere in the country, you see protocols not being handled properly from citizens every-where," Stroman said during a Zoom call. "You see us going to Florida soon. That was a big discussion I had with my family. Going to see the Marlins soon, that's something I don't want to be in that situation.

Stroman, scheduled to become a free agent after the season, is the second Mets player to opt out this month. Designated hitter Yoenis Cespedes left the team

Stroman said he had daily conversations with his family about what to do. His grandmother and uncle have compromised immune systems and are around his mother on a regular basis.

Laureano said Astros' coach goaded him

ANAHEIM, Calif. - Oakland outfielder Ramon Laureano says Houston Astros hitting coach Alex Cintron made a crude remark about his mother that prompted a benches-clearing incident Sunday, and Athletics manager Bob Melvin wants Cintron punished harshly by Major League Baseball.

Laureano said he regrets charging toward Houston's dugout to fight Cintron after the two exchanged words during the seventh inning of a game Sunday in Oakland. Speaking before a game against the Los Angeles Angels, Laureano said Cintron began jawing at him when Laureano reacted angrily after being hit by a

pitch from Houston rookie Humberto Castellanos

In other baseball news:

■ Indians right-hander Mike Clevinger won't make his scheduled start against the Cubs after Cleveland learned he joined rotation-mate Zach Plesac in violating COVID-19 protocols by going out after a game Saturday in Chicago. Plesac was forced to travel home separately from the club Sunday, while Clevinger flew home with teammates without disclosing that he had been with Plesac.

Cleveland said Clevinger will be quarantined and tested until he registers two negative results

■ A doubleheader between the St. Louis Cardinals and Detroit Tigers this week in Detroit is being postponed to allow more time for additional COVID-19 testing. MLB opted to postpone Thurs-

day's doubleheader to continue additional testing while players and staff are quarantined before the team returns to play.

Heart condition ends season for Vikings LB

EAGAN, Minn. - Minnesota Vikings second-year linebacker Cameron Smith will miss the 2020 season because of a heart condition that was discovered after he tested positive for COVID-19 upon reporting to training camp two weeks ago.

The Vikings made the procedural move on Monday of waiving Smith with a nonfootball injury designation. Upon clearing waivers, he'll revert to the reserve list for non-football injuries. Smith, who played mostly on special teams as a rookie, was a fifth-round draft pick out of USC

In other NFL news:

■ The 36-year-old daughter of New York Giants co-owner and film producer Steve Tisch has died. Hilary Anne Tisch died on Monday, Steve Tisch said in a statement issued for the family. The statement did not cite a cause of death.



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NHI

West is big, deep and wide-open

Blues have work cut out for them defending Cup

By Stephen Whyno Associated Press

he top of the Western Conference features the defending Stanley Cup champion, a 2018 finalist with even more talent and an MVP front-runner.

Good luck picking a favorite. The Vegas Golden Knights earned the top seed in the West by winning all three of their games in a round-robin tournament against the Colorado Avalanche, Dallas Stars and St. Louis Blues. But the Avalanche still have Nathan MacKinnon and are healthier and deeper than before, and there's no sleeping on the Blues after they muscled their

way to the Cup.
"It's deep," Vegas coach Peter DeBoer said of the West. "There are no easy paths. ... We're happy to be a part of it, we're happy we have the No. 1 seed, but we know there's a lot of heavy lifting here left to do."

Heavy is the name of the game out West, where size is as big an element of success as scoring. St. Louis is the standard, but the Calgary Flames bruised their way into the first round by beating up Winnipeg and present an obstacle for the third-seeded Stars.

"The West, there's a lot of heavy, hard teams that play a pretty simple game and the Blues are obviously the best at it being the champs," Dallas captain Jamie Benn said, "I think Calgary's pretty similar. They got some pretty rugged forwards that play the game hard, so we have to be prepared for that.'

Reigning playoff MVP Ryan O'Reilly said the Blues are aware of the difficult road back to the final but are only preparing for their first-round opponent: the faster and smaller Vancouver Canucks. He and Canucks coach Travis Green mirrored each other Monday by each saying his team must play its best to win.

The same goes for the eighthseeded Chicago Blackhawks going up against Vegas, and the seventh-seeded Arizona Coyotes against Colorado. Hart Trophy finalist MacKinnon is among the best players in the world and has a strong supporting cast with captain Gabriel Landeskog, winger Mikko Rantanen and rookie defenseman Cale Makar.

'They're built to win right now, Arizona coach Rick Tocchet said. 'They're highly skilled, they're hard on the puck. ... They got arguably one of the best players if not the best player in the league. Just a well-rounded team.

MacKinnon showed his value in the regular season by carrying the banged-up Avalanche to second in the West. Now he's ready to



PHOTOS BY JASON FRANSON, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

The St. Louis Blues celebrate a goal against the Dallas Stars during the first period of Sunday's roundrobin game in Edmonton, Alberta. The defending champion Blues are the No. 4 seed in the West.

try to push them toward the Cup. "Every year you play in the NHL, you realize you don't have many chances," MacKinnon said. "For me, this feels like my first real chance to win, which really excites me and I think it excites everyone.'

Iniury concerns

There are injury questions sur-rounding three Western teams' leading scorers, including Vegas winger Max Pacioretty's anticipated playoff debut for Game 1 against Chicago. Pacioretty hadn't entered the Edmonton bubble until last week, though general manager Kelly McCrimmon said the 31-year-old cleared quarantine in time to skate four days in a row and practice Monday.

Pacioretty being ready to go makes the Golden Knights even "It gives us more depth," De-

Boer said. "It adds our leading scorer back into our lineup. It helps our power play. He helps us in a lot of different areas.

Dallas Stars coach Rick Bow-ness said "everyone's healthy," which seems to be good news for 50-point producer Tyler Seguin and starting goaltender Ben Bishop, who each missed the roundrobin finale Sunday.

Tocchet said forward Nick Schmaltz had gotten a full practice under his belt and was feeling better. He might not be ready for Game 1 against Colorado on Wednesday, but Schmaltz is "definitely getting close.

Goalie carousel

The ton three teams in the West could all employ something of a goaltending tandem in the first round. That's not common among the NHL's best, but this is an

uncommon format that includes one set of back-to-back games in every series.

"We've got two starters great luxury to have," DeBoer said of the Golden Knights' Marc-Andre Fleury and Robin Lehner. 'How we're going to roll them out is to be determined."

Colorado has Philipp Grubauer and Pavel Francouz to roll out however coach Jared Bednar sees fit. He has chosen his Game 1 starter but won't say. The same goes for the Stars between Bishop and Anton Khudobin, who split time in the round-robin.

Oh, Canada

With the (empty arena) hosts Edmonton Oilers and Toronto Maple Leafs out and with all due respect to the East's eighth-seeded Montreal Canadiens, the best hopes of ending Canada's 27-year Cup drought are the Flames and Canucks.

Vancouver faces the tall first task of needing to knock off the reigning champs, and Calgary is considered an underdog as the No. 6 seed against No. 3 Dallas. The Winnipeg series made the Flames look ready for playoff hockey.

"What probably people mean when they talk about being an underdog and being in a position to upset, I think really they're probably referring to how hard the team plays and how good they are away from the puck," Flames coach Geoff Ward said. "If you get those two attributes in your game, you're always going to find

Scoreboard

Stanley Cup playoffs Best-of-seven; x-if necessary Seeding in parentheses EASTERN CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND

EASTERN CONFERENCE

I) Philadelphia vs. (8) Montreal
Wednesday: Game 1 (AFN-Sports, 2
Game 1) (AFN-Sports, 2
Friday, Game 2
Sunday: Game 3
Sunday: Game 3
Sunday: Game 3
Sunday: Game 4
X-Wednesday: Aug. 18: Game 5
X-Friday, May. 21: Game 6
X-Game 3
Sunday: Game 1
Thursday: Game 2
Sunday: Game 3
Monday: Game 4
X-Friday: Game 1
X-Friday

m, wednesday CE1; 4 a.m. Inursday Friday Game 2 Sunday; Game 3 Tuesday, Aug. 18; 20; Game 5 ×-Saturday, Aug. 22; Game 6 ×-Saturday, Aug. 22; Game 6 ×-Sunday, Aug. 23; Game 7 (b) Boston vs. (5) Carolina Tuesday; Game 2 (AFN-Sports2, 2 m. Friday CET; 9 a.m. Friday JKT)

Saturday: Game 4 Monday: Game 4 x-Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5 x-Thursday, Aug. 20: Game 6 x-Sunday, Aug. 23: Game 7 WESTERN CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND

x-Sunday, Aug. 22; Game 7
WESTERK CONFERCE

WESTERK CONFERCE

(1) At Edmonton, Alberta

Thursday Game 2 (AFN-Sports2, 11:30

X-Sunday; Game 4

X-Tuesday, Aug. 18; Game 5

X-Sunday, Aug. 18; Game 5

X-Sunday, Aug. 18; Game 6

X-Sunday, Aug. 18; Game 7

(2) Colorado vs. (7) Arizona

(2) Colorado vs. (7) Arizona

Monday; Game 1

X-Wednesday, Aug. 18; Game 7

Thursday (AF)

(3) Callas vs. (6) Calgary

Thursday (AF)

Thursday (AF)

Thursday (AF)

(3) Sunday; Game 2

AFN-Sports2, 4:30

am. Friday; CET: 11:30 am. Friday (AFT)

Wednesday, Aug. 38; Game 5

X-Thursday, Game 1

(4FN-Sports2, 4:30

AFT (AFN-Sports2, 4:30

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Monday: Game 4 x-Wednesday, Aug. 19: Game 5 x-Friday, Aug. 21: Game 6 x-Sunday, Aug. 23: Game 7

that you're in a game and you're going to be a difficult team to



The Colorado Avalanche's Nathan MacKinnon, left, and the Vegas Golden Knights' Paul Stastny battle for the puck Saturday during a round-robin game action in Edmonton, Alberta. MacKinnon is a finalist for the Hart Trophy and helped lead the Avalanche to the No. 2 seed in the playoffs.

NHI



RYAN REMIORZ, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AF

Canada's Alexis Lafreniere is expected to be the first player taken in the NHL Draft. The New York Rangers have the first selection.

Rangers win lottery, earn No. 1 draft pick

By LARRY LAGE Associated Press

The New York Rangers got a timely assist with their rebuilding efforts. New York won the second phase

of the NHL Draft lottery, giving the franchise a shot at selecting winger Alexis Lafreniere.
"Luck is on our side," Rang-

ers general manager Jeff Gorton acknowledged Monday night. "We're pretty happy with that a few days after coming out of the

The Rangers were among eight teams that lost in the qualifying round with a chance to claim quite a consolation prize.

Carolina finished off a sweep of the Rangers last week, leading to them boarding buses in Toronto while players and coaches from other teams in the league were drinking coffee at the same hotel. "Leaving the bubble first, it

hurts," Gorton said. The Rangers have the No. 1 overall pick for the first time since they selected Andre Veilleux in 1965, four years before the universal draft began.

"Obviously, you don't get the first pick very often," Gorton said. "This is a special year and it's exciting."

While the Rangers would rather still be skating in the playoffs, they will have the rights to draft a player for a short- and long-term gain.

The sturdy, 6-foot-1 Lafreniere had 114 goals and 297 points in 173 games in the Quebec Major Junior League. The 18-year-old winger also captained Canada's gold medal-winning team and earned MVP honors at the world junior championships earlier this

Gorton refused to commit to drafting Lafreniere, saying the team wanted to get to know him during an interview process.

There is little doubt, however, that Lafreniere will be taken with the first pick.

In any other year, Lafreniere would have been drafted in June and focused on training for his rookie season.

"It's been a pretty long last cou-

NHL Draft lottery First eight picks York Rangers

- . New York Rangers . Los Angeles . Ottawa (via San Jose) . Detroit . Ottawa . Anaheim

ple of months," he said, adding he has never been to New York.

The league was forced to make a lot of changes after the COVID-19 pandemic paused the season and the lottery was turned into a two-phase process.

The league's bottom seven teams had their seasons concluded March 12. Those teams also ended up not winning the lottery in June. The Los Angeles Kings landed the No. 2 pick overall.

The winning placeholder team, which became the Rangers, got the top pick despite a 12.5% chance

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said the process was fair because the eight teams that were eliminated from the 24-team field would have had a chance to win the lottery if the pandemic didn't alter the season.

Ottawa ended up with the third selection overall as part of the 2018 Erik Karlsson trade with San Jose along with the fifth pick overall. The league-worst Detroit Red Wings dropped to No. 4 in the first phase of the lottery.

The final 16 spots in the draft, which is tentatively scheduled for October, will be tied to postseason results.

The Rangers also were fortunate in the lottery last year, landing the No. 2 pick overall that they used to select Kaapo Kakko. The Finnish winger finished his rookie season with 10 goals and 13 assists in 66 games.

"We've been lucky in the last couple of years to do what we've done in the lottery," Gorton said. "It's a good night for the Rangers fans to be excited."

Lafreniere said his favorite Ranger is Artemi Panarin, who was among NHL scoring leaders with 95 points in his first season with the franchise.

All too familiar

East teams wind up in rematches

By JOHN WAWROW Associated Press

TORONTO ampa Bay coach Jon Cooper took exception to the Columbus Blue Jackets being referred to as "a blue-collar" team.

"Is that a positive or a negative?" Cooper said Monday, a day before his Eastern Conference second-seeded Lightning open the first round of the NHL playoffs against the seventh-seeded Blue Jackets.

"If blue-collar means a hardworking team, they are. But they don't have blue-collar talent. he added. "They have blue-chip talent."

Cooper and the Lightning know iust how good the Blue Jackets are in a rematch of last season's firstround series in which Columbus swept the Presidents' Trophy winners in four games.

"What happened last year, happened last year. That's in the his-tory books forever," Cooper said, noting how both teams have made various changes to their lineups. "I wouldn't call them a blue-collar team. I'd call them a really good team." Familiarity is breeding respect

among the East opponents entering the first round

Fourth-seeded Boston and Carolina opened Tuesday, a year after the Bruins swept the Hurricanes in the conference finals.

The other two series, which begin Wednesday, feature coaches facing their former teams.

Two years removed from coaching the Capitals to the Stanley Cup, Barry Trotz is now behind the New York Islanders bench in preparing to face thirdseeded Washington.

"That group has a lot of pedigree, they've got a lot of star power," Trotz said of the Alex Ovechkin-led Capitals. "I think it'll be a hell of a series."

The top-seeded Philadelphia Flyers have two former Montreal coaches - Alain Vigneault and assistant Michel Therrien - on their staff in preparing to face the upstart Canadiens. Montreal was the last team in the East to qualify for the expanded playoffs, and then needed four games to win its best-of-five series over Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh

Penguins. "Yeah, 2020 has been really weird for many people, for the whole hockey world, and that's why we're here, too," Canadiens forward Phillip Danault said, noting how a year ago Montreal fell one point short of qualifying for the postseason. "Yes, we had a bit of luck to be in the playoffs. But obviously, I think anything can happen.

The Flyers and Canadiens have split their previous six playoff meetings, with Philadelphia most



Goaltender Carter Hart and the Philadelphia Flyers earned the No. 1

seed in the East by going 3-0 in the round-robin tournament. recently beating Montreal in five games in the 2010 conference

Bad-news Bruins

Bad enough the Presidents' Trophy-winning Bruins looked flat at times in losing all three round-robin games to finish as the East's fourth seed. Injuries continue to be an issue.

Vezina Trophy finalist goalie Tuukka Rask and leading scorer David Pastrnak both missed practice Monday after being deemed unfit to participate. Without going into detail, coach Bruce Cassidy said both are expected for Game 1.

"Of course I would have liked another day, just to rest," Cassidy said, noting how Boston is coming off a 2-1 loss to Washington on Sunday. "Maybe, for us, in this case it's good to get back at it right away, because we haven't been involved in the sort of sudden-death playoff atmosphere.'

The Bruins have won four of five series against Carolina/Hartford.

Lightning struck

Tampa Bay faces the possibility of opening its series against Columbus minus its two top players. Captain Steven Stamkos has

been out since sustaining a lower body injury before the start of training camp last month. And defenseman Victor Hedman's status is uncertain after the Norris Trophy finalist appeared to twist his right ankle in a 4-1 loss to Philadelphia on Saturday.

"It's a tough job to fill and we have to do it collectively," defenseman Kevin Shattenkirk said. 'It's not just going to be one person coming in and trying to emulate Victor Hedman.

Columbus coach John Tortorella ruled out Blue Jackets goalie Elvis Merzlikins from Game 1. That means the Blue Jackets will start Joonas Korpisalo, who is coming off a 33-save outing in Columbus' 3-0 Game 5 win over Toronto on Sunday night. Korpisalo also shut out Toronto in Game 1, but was yanked for Merzlikins after allowing three goals on 15 shots in Game 3

Rested vs. tested

Hurricanes coach Brind'Amour hopes Carolina hasn't lost its edge since completing its three-game sweep of the New York Rangers on Aug. 4.

And whatever advantage the Hurricanes might have had in playing meaningful games as compared to the Bruins playing in a round-robin series might also have been negated.

"If we had started a day or two after that series, then I would've said, yes, for sure, there would've been maybe a little advantage there," he said, "Now, I think that probably went away with us sitting for a week.

On the bright side, defenseman Dougie Hamilton could be in position to make his playoff debut in Game 1 for Carolina.

Memories

Trotz was behind the Capitals bench in 2015, when Washington eliminated the New York Islanders in seven games of a firstround series.

"It was a highly competitive emotional series and I expect a lot of the same," Trotz said.

Capitals coach Todd Reirden played down the notion of facing his former boss.

"It's not Barry Trotz versus Todd Reirden or any of those type of things," he said.

The Islanders hold a 5-2 playoff series edge over Washington.

SPORTS



Hot streak

Suns win sixth in a row since NBA's restart » Page 19

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Playing the waiting game

Uncertainty biggest foe for coaches

By HANK KURZ JR. Associated Press

ollege football coaches are facing the daunt-ing challenge of getting their players to maintain the required focus to prepare for season openers when the prevailing question swirling around the sport is when, or if, the season will even be played because of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic.

Preparation is a regimented endeavor. Practice periods are measured on a clock on the field. whistles signal the time to hustle from one drill to another. And uncertainty is a formidable opponent to the process.

Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall said it adds an "emotional drain" to the rigor of weight lifting and fitness, film study and

psychological preparedness.
"With so many variances on the outside of start, stop schedule, new schedule, continued start, stop, there's an existing emotional drain and distraction that is very difficult in terms of managing the external environment that does spill over," Mendenhall said Monday on a Zoom call with reporters.

Virginia, like many schools with recently revised schedules, has just started practice. But Svracuse coach Dino Babers has a different take, saying team workouts seem to provide relief.

"The effort, based off all the stuff that's gone on, I almost feel like it's been a release that they can actually lose themselves and do something that they really enjoy with a bunch of guys that are all COVID-free and running around and having fun," Babers

said on Zoom. West Virginia coach Neal Brown agrees

"You see guys, their demeanors have changed," he said. "They have something to look forward to. Our guys have new energy when they're out there. They're able to



get off their phones. They're able to get away from all the uncertainty and they're really going to do what they love to do. So that's been a positive experience and I hope it continues.

The Mountaineers, said, have no current COVID-19

Army coach Jeff Monken prefers his team focus on when, not if, games are played.

We don't know who the opponent's going to be, we don't know what time it's going to be, what day it's going to be, but eventually they're going to say let's play ball and when we do our guys want to be ready," Monken said, also on Zoom. "So we're just completely focusing on preparation and not worrving about the rest of it."

SEE WAITING ON PAGE 18



Above: Virginia head coach Bronco Mendenhall watches the first half of his team's game against Miami on Oct. 11 in Miami Gardens, Fla. College football coaches are facing the daunting challenge of getting their players to maintain the required focus to prepare for season openers when the prevailing question swirling around the sport is when, or if, the season will even be played because of the pandemic.

Left: Army coach Jeff Monken's biggest challenge may be finding opponents for the Black Knights. Their only confirmed home game is Nov. 7 against Air Force. The other five scheduled visitors have canceled.

LYNNE SLADKY, ABOVE,

Playoffs begin with 16 teams remaining NHL. Pages 22-23

Trout's home runs ralliy Angels past A's

MLB. Page 20

